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75¢

BEST SUNSHINE'S \$10M GIFT

CUC residential customers to get billing credit for October

» Fletcher: Credit will apply electronically to accounts; no cash value

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

What started out as a promise by Best Sunshine Int. Ltd. to give \$10 million to assist Saipan residents with their utility bills is now in the hands of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for processing.

Best Sunshine, CUC, and the CNMI government have hammered out an agreement for the completion of the credit distribution by the end of this month, according to CUC executive director Alan Fletcher yesterday.

"CUC is in the process of implementing the procedure established by Best Sunshine and the CNMI government to distribute \$10 million of utility credits to its residential accounts," Fletcher said.

After nearly three weeks of discussion on how CUC will distribute the funds, CUC decided that the money, which has been deposited in an escrow account, will be credited to eligible CUC residential accounts only and will be through an electronic credit process.

"The crediting process is still under implementation and

See CUC on Page 4

WINNING COSTUME

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Micah Jude T. Hofschneider, shown here with a NASA astronaut costume made of Huggies diapers, is named the winner of the 2014 Huggies Diaper Costume COostest at the "3rd Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Fair, and Daddies Too!" event hosted by MarPac Inc. at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center last Saturday. Micah's proud parents are Soledad Tenorio and Vaughn Hofschneider.



Fletcher

Tourist, 67, drowns near Managaha reef

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A 67-year-old Korean male tourist on a snorkeling tour drowned near Managaha reef on Friday afternoon.

Department of Public Safety police spokesman Travis Hurst said yesterday that Commonwealth Health Center's Dr. Gregory Kotheimer stated that Young Ho Park's cause of death was drowning.

Hurst said the U.S. Coast Guard has been notified about the incident and it is currently doing its own investigation as the inspection authority over the tour vessel *Ocean Star*.

DPS Boating Safety Section personnel were

See TOURIST on Page 4

» 3rd drowning incident in the CNMI this year

Salas to fly to Boise to help find missing brother

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Andrew Salas, the CNMI Democratic Party's candidate for U.S. delegate, has put on hold his campaign activities and will fly to Boise, Idaho, to help in the search for his missing brother, Joe.

"At this time I'm not doing any politicking and any house-to-house visits. We're a large family but a close family. My family and I need to do what we need to do as a family," he said in a phone interview with *Saipan Tribune* last night.

He said his political sorties to Guam, Rota, and Tinian would also be called off.

Salas said as soon as his salary advance from

See SALAS on Page 4



Salas



INSIDE



NATION

A Dallas nurse who has caught Ebola has received a plasma transfusion.

» PAGE 14



WORLD

Sleepy Guyana wrestles with the world's highest rate of suicides.

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LIFE & STYLE

Michael Keaton soars again in "Birdman or The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance."

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Local

CEC prepares for runoff; plans to get ballot printer

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission is planning to use a new ballot printing machine that can print up to 50,000 ballots per election in case there will be a gubernatorial runoff race this November, CEC executive director Robert A. Guerrero disclosed yesterday.

He admitted, though, that it is a challenge right now how to get the machine here by air from the Election System and Software's office in Nebraska.

"We want to get it here at least a couple of days before the elections so we can set it up," said

Guerrero, who went to Nebraska last week where they coded all five tabulation machines and discussed with the company the idea of bringing to the islands the ballot printing machine.

The CEC executive director said the five-year rental for the machine is \$3,000, but they are still figuring out how much the shipping cost is.

If none of the four gubernatorial teams garner at least 50 percent plus one of the votes cast, then there will be a gubernatorial runoff race.

Guerrero said that after the election results are certified and if there will be runoff race, they would need to print 20,000 to

21,000 ballots.

After printing the ballots, they would have to send the absentee ballots in two to three days after certification.

CEC already printed 22,000 ballots in Alabama for the general election. As of Oct. 2, 2014, there are 17,996 registered voters in the CNMI, including absentee voters.

Guerrero said that after this year's election, they can use the printing machine for the succeeding general and runoff elections.

Guerrero said they just found out this year that Election System and Software, a Federal Election Commission-certified company that provides election

materials during U.S. elections, has a new machine that can print ballots.

"So we are trying to see the feasibility of getting that here on time, not for the general election but the runoff, if there will be one, so we can print out ballots," he said.

The executive director said he is hesitant to print out the ballots locally because it has to match with the way the tabulation machine is programmed.

"So one little error there, the machine won't even read the ballot," he said.

Guerrero said if they can get this printing machine, the company will do all the programming and all they have to do is press the button to print the ballots here.

"It fits our situation," he added.

Guerrero said if they order the ballots for the runoff election from the U.S. mainland, it will take three to four days to

get them here at the fastest.

He said they explained the situation to the company and it recommended using the printing machine.

"Right now, the way we are planning is, we're planning a hand count for the runoff. So we're hoping to get the machine in time for the setup and programming. And we can print out ballots right after the certification of election if there is a runoff," Guerrero added.

Man arrested on Rota for allegedly growing pot

Police arrested a 43-year-old man on Rota on Friday for allegedly growing marijuana plants on the island.

Stephen Edwards Albright was taken to the Superior Court on Saipan yesterday morning on charges of possession and trafficking of a controlled substance.

Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio imposed a \$30,000 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for Oct. 22 at 9am.

Kim-Tenorio appointed assistant public defender Michael Sato as counsel for Albright.

Sato noted that police detective

Tito S. Hocog II wrote a declaration of probable cause in support of the issuance of a search and arrest warrant. Hocog, however, did not mention what happened after the search was conducted, Sato said.

Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds said Sato can raise that issue during preliminary hearing or through a motion, not during yesterday's bail hearing.

Kim-Tenorio agreed with the prosecutor.

Hocog stated in his declaration that a cooperating source told him on Oct. 6 that Albright

was growing and selling marijuana at his residence in Songsong Village.

Hocog said the source revealed that 25 to 30 marijuana trees were planted in plastic pots behind Albright's residence and were about four to six feet tall. The source also told the detective that there were approximately 80 to 100 marijuana sprouts in plastic trays behind the house.

The cooperating source added that dried marijuana plants were inside the suspect's house. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Employer training conference today and tomorrow on Tinian

As part of National Disability Employment Awareness Month activities, the planning committee has lined up a series of workshops/trainings on Tinian today and tomorrow to benefit employers by way of increasing their awareness and understanding of disability employment issues. The training will take place at the Tinian NMC Campus, Room D.

NDEAM's key trainer is Philip L. Marlowe of the Guam-based Office of Federal Contracts Compliance Program of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Today's training will be a whole-day event, while tomorrow will be a morning-only event.

Marlowe represents the U.S. Department of Labor and for the last two years as compliance officer for the Office of Federal Contracts Compliance Programs for Guam and the CNMI. He has a master's degree in Business Management and is a graduate of the U.S. Department of Defense Equal Opportunity Institute and a former Equal Opportunity Officer for the U.S. Army. Additionally, Marlowe serves as adjunct faculty with the University of Phoenix School of Business Administration and previously with the University of Maryland, University College and Central Texas College Department of Criminal Justice.

For more information about the training or to register, contact Josephine Tudela at the

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation at 322-6537/8; TTY: (670) 322-6449; Fax: (670) 322-6536;

email: nmidir@ovrgov.net; or P.O. Box 501521 Saipan, MP 96950. **(OVR)**



IN THE NAME OF CULTURE

DENNIS B. CHAN

Aofia Tuiolosega wears glass beads, seashell bracelets, a flower mwar-mwar and a dress skirt woven from pagu or hibiscus bark that she and her mom, Flowerpot Sablan, prepared for a holiday arts and crafts show at the Multi-Purpose Center last Sunday.

Hafa Adai!

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‘Militarization will be discussed in meeting with Kia’aina today’

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The proposed militarization of Pagan will be among the topics that will be discussed when members of the House of Representatives meet with Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia’aina today.

House Speaker Joseph P. DeLeon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) said yesterday he and two others from the lower chamber will be sitting down with the newly confirmed Office of Insular Affairs assistant secretary.

“We have agreed on several topics or issues. One of them is militarization here, even though that’s kind of specific to [the U.S. Department of Defense], but it’s good that she understands what the perspective and the position of the people are. Of course that includes Pagan, the divert airfield, and Tinian,” he said.

Joining DeLeon Guerrero in the meeting with Kia’aina are Rep. Trenton Conner (Ind-Tinian) and Rep. Richard Seman (R-Saipan).

Conner is attending the meeting because he chairs the House Committee on Foreign and Federal Relations, while Seman is present “because of his background in natural resources and the submerged land issues.”

DeLeon Guerrero said other

topics are submerged lands, specifically the agreement between DOD on training on Tinian and the Marianas Trench Monument, where there is also a pending agreement between the CNMI and OIA.

Another issue that is expected to be discussed is potential seabed mining and the contentious topic of immigration.

“Right now we retain the rights and control over our 3 miles but beyond 3 miles, if there’s any seabed mining, Interior has the authority to grant licenses and collect revenues,” said the speaker.

DeLeon Guerrero tipped his hat to Kia’aina for taking the time to come out to the islands.

“Even though I know she grew up in Guam, I don’t know if she’s been in the Commonwealth. I’m glad she’s coming out here. She’s taking the time to meet with the leaders and get acquainted with some of the issues affecting us. It’s a good opportunity for her to understand the issues on the various jurisdictions she’s going to.”

Acting press secretary Ivan Blanco welcomes Kia’aina’s visit to the CNMI. “I think this is her first visit here since becoming assistant secretary. It’s pretty much a courtesy call. I know acting governor will



Kia’aina

say thank you for the federal grants from OIA.”

Kia’aina is scheduled to meet with acting governor Jude U. Hofschneider at 9am. After the meet-and-greet, the acting governor and a num-

ber of Cabinet members will be flying to Rota to assess the damage wrought by Typhoon Vongfong.

In a statement, the U.S. Department of the Interior said Kia’aina will be in the CNMI from Oct. 13 to 17 and will meet with Hofschneider and legislative leaders from both the House of Representative and the Senate.

She will also meet with members of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, visit the Northern Marianas College, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and tour American Memorial Park, among other activities.

Kia’aina will also fly to Tinian to meet with Mayor Ray Dela Cruz to learn first-hand the issues important to the Tinian community.

The Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas carries out the administrative responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior in coordinating federal policy

for the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the CNMI, and administering and overseeing U.S. federal assistance to the Freely Associated States of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau under the Compacts of Free Association. The Assistant Secretary executes these responsibilities through the Office of Insular Affairs.

Before her appointment and subsequent confirmation as OIA assistant secretary, Kia’aina served as First Deputy

Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources for Hawaii under Gov. Neil Abercrombie.

Kia’aina also worked under Hawaii Sen. Daniel K. Inouye as well as Inouye’s Hawaii counterpart, Sen. Daniel K. Akaka. She followed with time as chief of staff and Legislative

Director for Delegate Robert A. Underwood (D-Guam) from 1999 to 2003 and as chief of staff for Rep. Ed Case (D-Hawaii) from 2003 to 2007.

Kia’aina received a B.A. from the University of Southern California and a J.D. from the George Washington University Law School.

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Hart: Trades courses at NMC hampered by lack of resources

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

After being criticized for not doing enough to train local residents for vocational jobs in advance of the 2019 expiration of the CW program, Northern Marianas College president Dr. Sharon Hart defended the community college by saying that lack of resources has always hindered NMC from offering these courses.

Hart was at the Senate yesterday morning for Michaela Sanchez's public hearing for NMC Board of Regent member before Sen. Frank Cruz's (R-Tinian) Executive Appointments and Government Investigation Committee.

During the course of the

hearing, Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan) bemoaned NMC's lack of effort in training local residents in trades like plumbing, masonry, carpentry, and electrical.

The veteran legislator, who will not be seeking re-election in the Nov. 4 polls, also directed Hart and NMC to do what it can to help the Northern Marianas Technical Institute, which is the only vocational school on the island.

"I think it all boils down to resources. NMC, as part of our vision and mission, is to be the provider of training that is needed by the workforce. It's just unfortunate that we don't have the resources we need in order to do it. There are over 400 occupations that right now

are falling into CW workers and how do you train for all of them? You can't!" said Hart in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* after the hearing.

The NMC president said the college has so far the done the best job based on the very limited resources the government has given it.

"We have to focus on the areas that we believe we can make the biggest difference. To move into these other trade courses and assisting NMTI would take additional resources. Those are very expensive operations," she said, adding that NMC currently is focusing on accounting, education, and tourism and hospitality courses.

"Our programs lead to the

workforce. It's just not leading right now into what we call the construction trades. We've not going to those courses because they need resources. We would love to go in that direction and work with NMTI to do that but we don't have it and that's part of the challenge."

Hart said having served as a dean before for industrial and technical programs, she knows they are always the most expensive programs because of all the technical equipment and supplies needed for students.

"The diesel program (diesel engine mechanics) alone costs \$10,000 per student per year to train. At NMC, under the budget given us by the Legislature, we're getting around \$4,000 per student."

For her part, Sanchez said she would continue working with her colleagues to ensure that NMC provides its students the services they need.

She said she will work with other regents so more vocational and trades courses will be offered at NMC in the future. Same with partnering more effectively with NMTI "so residents will have training before 2019."

The NMC Board of Regents is currently made up of Elizabeth Rechebei, William S. Torres, Juan T. Lizama, Malua T. Peter, Elaine Orilla, and chair Frank Rabauliman. Sanchez's term recently expired and she was re-nominated by Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

NMC got \$5.152 million under the fiscal year 2015 budget and of that figure \$600,000 are from CW fees.

TOURIST

From Page 1

dispatched to the drowning incident near Managaha reef on Friday at 3:53pm.

DPS was notified that *Ocean Star* transported the victim to the Smiling Cove Marina.

Park was reportedly on a snorkeling tour on the reef aboard the *Ocean Star*.

Hurst said that, according to witness accounts, Park was seen towing himself to the boat using the secured rope line, but before reaching the boat, his head was seen dipping under the water.

One witness stated that Park's mask did not appear to be prop-

erly secured.

Boat crew jumped into the water and assisted Park, but found him unconscious and not breathing. Vessel crew performed cardio-pulmonary resuscitation on the victim as he was being brought to Smiling Cove, where DPS medics were waiting.

Medics brought Park to CHC, but Dr. Kotheimer pronounced him dead at 4:30pm.

It was the third drowning incident in the CNMI this year.

In May, a Japanese snorkeling instructor drowned at the Pinatang Dive Site on Rota.

In February, a 17-month-old boy drowned in the swimming pool of a house in Papago.

SALAS

From Page 1

the company he consults with in the U.S. mainland comes in, he will immediately book a flight to Boise and join his four other brothers and numerous nephews currently combing the area where 50-year-old Joe was last seen hunting.

"Hope I get funds tomorrow. I'm hoping my brother will be found. I got calls from family members, friends, and teammates, all telling me that I should go and search for my brother," said Salas.

He said their family has organized Mass for nine straight days for Joe's safe return.

The former lawmaker and Commerce secretary said he will also be begging off from the Saipan Chamber of Commerce forum where he was supposed to face off with incumbent Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan.

Salas stressed, though, that he is not dropping off from the race.

"There will be no forum with me and Kilili but, as soon as there's a resolution on my brother's whereabouts, I will gladly take part in the debate. As soon as this is done I will be happy to meet Mr. Sablan in a forum after we bring Joe back to his lovely wife, Cathy," said Salas. "As soon as the elections are done, we will also still be cousins, his sisters will still be my friends, and his nephew will also be my paddling buddy."

Salas said he feels sorry for begging off from the Chamber delegate forum as he was looking forward to debating with Sablan as the latter wasn't able to attend a similar forum spon-

sored by the Northern Marianas Descent Corp. a couple of weeks back.

Meanwhile, in a statement provided by his office, Sablan said he is also begging off from attending the forum organized by the Chamber.

"I understand my opponent's decision not to participate. And I feel it would not be respectful to sit alone on the stage answering questions if he is not present because he is searching for his brother," Sablan said.

He also asked the community to pray for the safe return of Joe, who is a former Saipan Little League Baseball president, staff of former representatives Edward Salas, and a former manager of a garment factory in Tanapag.

"Joe Salas, his wife Cathy, and all of their family are in my prayers. I understand from people in Boise that there is an intensive search underway and that the large Chamorro community there is supporting that effort in every way they can. I just saw Joe at the annual softball tournament in Portland, so I know how big the community is and how well organized. That gives me hope. Those of us here in the Northern Marianas can all help by praying that Joe finds his way to safety or that rescuers will soon come to his aid."

Chamber president Alex Sablan said the organization understands Salas' predicament and is also praying for his brother's immediate rescue.

"Prayers with his family and we're hopeful that Joe is found safe and sound. We wish him the best. The Chamber totally understands why he can't be in the delegate forum. It's the least of his concerns right now."



MARK RABAGO

Northern Marianas College president Dr. Sharon Hart, left, and regent nominee Michaela Sanchez listen to questions from members of the Senate's Executive Appointments and Government Investigation Committee during yesterday's public hearing at the Senate chamber.

CUC

From Page 1

CUC requests that its residential account holders refrain from making calls requesting program details until the end of the month," Fletcher said.

The exact amount of credit, which will be given to each eligible residential account, has not yet been calculated and CUC is still in the process of calculating that, Fletcher said.

"All vouchers will be in the form of electronic credit-vouchers to be applied directly to eligible accounts. No physical paper vouchers will be issued

and CUC will undertake the distribution process of the credit-vouchers," he said.

The credit-vouchers will go through the distribution process by crediting the total voucher amount to each of the eligible account's utility billings for water, wastewater and electricity.

"Eligibility will be by account basis only and not directed to individual persons," Fletcher said.

All active CUC residential accounts and inactive residential accounts with a service location and meter on residential property as of Oct. 10, 2014, will qualify.

Fletcher said the program has strict limitations. It is lim-

ited to one credit-voucher "per CUC account number and are not dependent on the number of people living at the service location."

"The credit vouchers have no cash value, are not redeemable for cash or services or any other benefits, and are not transferable. Credit-voucher eligibility decisions are non-disputable under the billing dispute provisions of CUC's regulations," he said.

All unused voucher credits will expire on Oct. 31, 2015.

Fletcher said that residential account holders are asked to check their November billing (October utility use) for the

credit amount applied to the utility bill.

This \$10 million utility assistance was promised by Best Sunshine as part of its Community Benefit Fund. The company had vowed to release the funds 60 days after it was issued an exclusive license to build a casino resort on Saipan. The license was issued on Aug. 12.

Best Sunshine has also promised to provide \$20 million, within 60 days after starting the construction of the casino, that will go to education, scholarships, infrastructure, health care, and employee retirement benefits.

Inos gets draft of executive order for teacher rep

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Board of Education has presented Gov. Eloy S. Inos with a draft of an executive order for the selection and appointment of a teacher representative to the board.

There has been no teacher representative on the board since January 2008.

The executive order would

create a system where the governor would appoint the teacher selected by his or her colleagues as 'Teacher of the Year' as the non-voting teacher representative on the board.

The teacher rep would serve a one-year term, according to the order.

The draft order cites Article 15 of the CNMI Constitution, which empowers the governor to appoint three nonvoting "ex-

officio members to the Board of Education," one of which is a teacher rep.

Guerrero has sent two previous letters to Inos this year—on May 2 and Aug. 2—urging for the use of an executive order.

In an interview, Guerrero said the letter to the governor is a part of their "continuing efforts" for the Legislature to take the initiative on the matter.

The Office of the Governor has acknowledged receiving the letter, Guerrero said.

As reported earlier, PSS previously proposed a bill that called for schoolwide election by fellow teachers, but the Senate pushed a substitute bill instead that did not track the language promoted by PSS or as introduced by then-Senate Education Committee chair Sen. Jovita Taimano (Ind-Rota).

Instead, the Legislature recommended that teachers hold an election to decide on their representative.

The board rejected this recommendation.

"Based on the results of the survey, PSS teachers want to have the...teacher representative appointed to the position. Because this bill does not reflect the will of teachers, PSS cannot support it at this time," stated

a joint letter that PSS and the BOE submitted to the House education panel last year.

In the May 2 letter this year, Guerrero noted the "ongoing struggle to motivate the Legislature to act in a coherent matter."

"The Constitution calls for a selection process to be done pursuant to law. Unfortunately the Legislature has not done so," Guerrero said then.

Ex-Sports and Rec official arrested for alleged possession of 'ice,' pot

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Police arrested former Division of Sports and Recreation deputy director John B. Reyes Jr. on Friday for alleged possession of methamphetamine or "ice" and marijuana.

Reyes, 36, was arrested at a parking lot of a store in San Jose for illegal possession of controlled substances and illegal possession of less than an ounce of marijuana. He was taken to the Superior Court yesterday morning for a bail hearing.

According to a police report, Reyes' three other companions—Juan Ada Tenorio, Lawrence Pangelinan, and Wonjoo Jung—were also arrested for illegal possession. It's not clear whether a complaint will also be filed against them. The complaint was filed only against Reyes.

Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio imposed a \$15,000 cash

bail on Reyes and required him to have a third-party custodian.

Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government. Assistant public defender Michael Sato served as counsel for Reyes.

Police detective Jeffrey I. Norita stated in the complaint that the Department of Public Safety dispatched two patrol officers to a reported possible drug activity in-progress involving a Lexus car (license plate ACH-868) parked at San Jose Mart in San Jose on Friday at 5:27pm.

Another patrol officer also arrived and saw the first responding officer with Reyes standing in the parking lot of San Jose Mart, while Tenorio, Pangelinan, and Jung were all inside the Lexus.

The patrol officer saw a waist pouch that appeared bulky hanging over Reyes' right shoulder. The officer asked Reyes if he had weapons inside the pouch.

Reyes said there's nothing in

his pouch and the officer is free to check it. Reyes opened the pouch himself and the officer saw several ziplock baggies inside. The officer got one ziplock that contained possible "ice" and Reyes said that a friend

gave it to him. The officer then placed Reyes under arrest.

During a consented search, the three officers searched the Lexus and found one ziplock baggie containing possible "ice," a rolled-up marijuana

joint, and drug paraphernalia.

Norita said he tested the two baggies procured at the scene and both tested presumptive positive for "ice."

Last November, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth

L. Govendo sentenced Reyes to three months in prison for shattering the driver's side of a car with a baseball bat and assaulting the driver, Derek Reyes, at a stop light on Beach Road, Garapan on Sept. 2, 2012.

SIS' mentoring program helps create nurturing relationships

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

To help National Honor Students at Saipan International School meet their community service needs, Ingur Lee, a high school teacher, started a mentoring program pairing NHS students with students in need of help in certain academic subjects.

The program, which started school year, has now 40 mentors in the program, according to Lee.

Mentors usually help students two hours a week, for a total of 50 to 80 hours a year.

He said the program is similar to peer programs at other school but these mentors add a different dynamic in that they are not too close to the ages of their mentees but not too far apart in age as adult tutors or teachers would be.

He called it a good mix of "accessibility and authority."

He said mentors deepen their understanding of subjects they are already strong in, as they now have to teach them to others.

"Teaching makes it permanent," he said. "Mentees sometimes ask questions that you never thought about."

Mentors sign up, list down areas of academic strength, and are then matched with students who have also listed down their areas of need.

Reading, vocabulary, spelling, geometry and even penmanship are some of the few examples seen on the sign-up sheet.

He hopes to continue the program into the future as he has gotten good feedback from students.

A couple of students were even surprised they enjoyed it, he said.


He noted mutual respect as important in the mentor-mentee dynamic.

"The best teacher is not the one with the highest skill. The best teacher is one that can connect," he said.

SIS headmaster Tim Bray called the program "positive for all the kids" involved.

"The young students have someone to look up to. The older students learn a lot of leadership skills because they are helping someone younger than themselves. It's like a brother or little sister, it's really a nurturing, positive environment," he said.

Mentoring goes on after school, from 2:50pm to 3:40pm, according to Lee.



"The PEOPLE comes FIRST!"

RIOS

ROY TAISACAN

for SENATE INDEPENDENT

2014 CNMI Special Election Senate #3 Ballot

BIO

EDUCATION:

- Masters, Urban and Environmental Planning, Arizona State University**
- Bachelors, Recreation and Tourism Management, Arizona State University**

WORK EXPERIENCE:

- Public Transportation Community Planner (COTA)
- Title VI Coordinator – Civil Rights (COTA)
- Over 10 years of business management experience (JJ ENTERPRISES)

BOARD AND COMMITTEES:

- Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation Advisory Board
- Saipan and Northern Islands Leadership Memorial Kiosku Committee
- Public Transit Bus Stop Designation Ad Hoc Committee

COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE:

- Through the Arizona State University Program, help communities by introducing socioeconomic solutions specific to their needs.

PLATFORM

To my supporters and the CNMI people, I am frustrated like you with the problems of our economy and government. We have incumbents who are more concerned about their re-election instead of what is best for future generations and what is best for the community and CNMI. I am running for senate because I believe our community needs a stronger voice advocating for us. I am ready to serve, lead, and fight for you in the legislature.

- Retirement Fund**
 - ✓ Support legislation to ensure that retirees and other beneficiaries continue to receive their pension.
- Alternative Energy**
 - ✓ Support legislation to ensure the implementation of alternative energy solutions.
- Anti-corruption**
 - ✓ Introduce legislation, as well as strengthen existing ones, to eliminate government corruption and political pressure on government workers.
- Economy**
 - ✓ Support adequate funding to CHCC, PSS, NMC and NMTI. These agencies are vital in strengthening and sustaining our workforce. The CNMI must have a healthy, educated, and well-trained workforce to stimulate economic growth.
 - ✓ Promote and support our Tourism Industry to ensure its sustainability.
 - ✓ Promote and support other industries such as agriculture and fishing to help grow our economy.
- Accountability and Transparency**
 - ✓ I will have Town Hall meetings every other month to report to the people of my progress as well as discuss and take notes of their concerns.

Committee to elect Roy Taisacan Rios Special Election Senate #3 Ted Deleon Guerrero, Treasurer

Tinian casino panel cancels 2 licenses, 1 plenary license

The Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission revoked and canceled last week two conditional casino licenses and one plenary license for failure to meet the imposed conditions, breach of the Section 16 Agreement, and failure to comply with the Tinian Gaming Act and regulations. The revocation and termination was effective on Oct. 9, 2014, at 11am.

The conditional licenses revoked and terminated are:

- Conditional Licenses 06-02 issued on Sept. 27, 2006, to Marianas Resort Development Company, Inc. and Kang Yun Lee;

- Conditional License 08-01 issued on Sept. 20, 2008, to Neo Gold Wings Paradise Saipan Corp.

The plenary license revoked and terminated is Plenary License 12-01 issued on Oct. 22, 2012, to HW Gold Island Holding, Ltd., Yung-Hsiang Liu, and Ken Tzu-Sen Lin.

The Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission opined that such failure in performance over the past years and violation of the Gaming Act are of such a serious and fundamental nature that the interest of the public has been adversely affected. The Tinian people overwhelming approved the establishment of the gaming industry on Tinian. The lack of progress in these conditional and plenary licenses has failed to bring about the economic development that has been much needed on the island.

The commission is now looking toward a more formal and competitive bidding process

that will include critical criteria that will ensure a sustainable level of investment in order to ensure a successful industry. The commission will be prepar-

ing a Request for Proposal for a share in the three remaining casino licenses available on Tinian. It is not known at this time whether the commission will is-

sue an RFP for one license for all three but anticipates that the RFP will be ready for publication within six months, if not sooner. (TCGCC)



'HEALTHY HUGGIES'

NMC Nurses Club members take a photo with Huggies Elephant during the annual "Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies (and Daddies too!)" event hosted by MarPac at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe last Saturday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tudela seeks a share of FY 2015 poker fee revenue for her office

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Mayor's Office plans to ask Rep. Ramon A. Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) to set aside some funds for it from two appropriations bills that will divvy up next fiscal year's poker fee revenue.

Saipan Mayor Marian DLG. Tudela said that both House local bills 18-63 and 18-64, which will appropriate \$3.264 million in projected revenue from poker fees in fiscal year 2015, do not include any appropriation for her office.

"We received [copies of both bills] for commentary and we will be asking for some of the funds to be included for the Mayor's Office," Tudela said.

She said the funds will be used to purchase heavy equipment or for heavy equipment rentals so her office can continue performing its duties such as clearing secondary roads, tourist areas, and more.

According to Tebuteb's Oct. 3 letter to the Saipan Mayor's Office, HLB 18-63 seeks to appropriate \$3.264 million in revenues that will be collected from poker fees in fiscal year 2015 under Saipan Local Law 11-2.

HLB 18-64 seeks to appropriate additional collections under Saipan Local Law 18-07.

Tebuteb stated that the actual projected revenue from poker fees is \$3.672 million but both bills will only appropriate \$3.264 million.

HLB 18-63 states that \$3 million will go to the Saipan Higher

Education Financial Assistance program and \$100,000 will be used for SHEFA operations. Some \$25,000 will go to the Saipan Little League; \$15,000 for the Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival; \$5,000 for the Agricultural Fair; \$20,000 for the enforcement operations of the Saipan Zoning Office; \$20,000 for Liberation Day activities; \$50,000 for the Cultural Village Tipiwee; \$300,000 equally distributed to each precinct; and \$162,000 for the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation operational funds.

It also includes \$75,000 for the construction of the Fitme Place Road on Navy Hill and inner road construction from the Garapan Fishing Base north to the Children's Park by the Carolinian Affairs Office, under the expenditure authority of the Department of Public Works secretary.

HLB 18-64 will appropriate \$264,000, with the delegation's operational funds getting \$99,000; \$30,000 for the repair and maintenance of a basketball court and social hall in Precinct 2; \$30,000 to construct bus shelters and road bumps in Precinct 5; \$30,000 to renovate the health center in Precinct 4; and \$75,000 for the Fitme Place Road on Navy Hill and inner road construction from the Garapan Fishing Base north to the Children's Park by the Carolinian Affairs Office.

Copies of the local bills were also given to the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council and the Northern Islands Mayor's Office.

More new healthcare providers at CHC

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The public hospital is well on its way to beefing up its roster of healthcare providers, according to Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther Muña yesterday.

About 11 new healthcare providers were hired over the past months and the Commonwealth Health Center is awaiting one more this month, said Muña in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Muña, the latest additions are at the emergency department, obstetrics-gynecology department, pediatric department, internal medicine, surgery department, and dental clinic.

Dr. Jeremy S. Devey is the newest addition to the emergency department. Dr. Maria Hy recently joined the OB-GYN department. There are four new pediatric staff: Dr. Tiffany Lin, Dr. Elizabeth Triche, Dr. Elizabeth Dobler, and Dr. Tong Wooi.

The two healthcare providers

in internal medicine are nurse practitioner Helen Williams and Dr. Elizabeth Kohnen. The surgery department now has Dr. Brian Fitch and Dr. Stephn Katz, while Dr. Adam Gentry is the newest dentist.

The other healthcare provider that will join CHC this month will be at internal medicine.

Muña said that they are focusing on hiring specialized providers such

as ENT, cardiology, neurology and ortho. They are also looking for a midlevel healthcare provider for Tinian.

"It is the goal of CHCC to have adequate providers to meet the needs of the community. The community needs primary care for chronic disease management," Muña said.

She said that having adequate physicians in internal medicine gives more time for them to see patients in the clinic and in the hospital wards.

"We want to see a healthier population and this is one of the first steps that is necessary to get there," she said.



Muña


RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its **RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS** customers that current billing of accounts are due on or before **Tuesday, October 21**. Payments not received by close of business on **October 21** will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00PM on that day.

To prevent temporary suspension, customers are hereby advised to kindly pay their bills on or before **Tuesday, October 21**. Disputed billings must be brought to IT&E's attention in person or in writing by **Tuesday, October 21**. Customers must pay any current amount due, to avoid disconnection.

If you have questions regarding billing or services please call Customer Service at 682-4ITE (4483) or visit our Customer Service or Business Sales Center – Middle Road, Chalan Laolao.

To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:



SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm
Chalan Laolao – up to 5:00pm
Tinian/Rota Office – up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm
Online payment – up to 9:00pm
Pay by Phone – 682-4ITE (4483)

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-0424
Plaintiff,	
-v-	THIRD AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE
ANTONIA URUMELOG, Defendant.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on December 22, 2008 I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 010 K 225, situated in Dandan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 920 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 010 K 01, dated August 19, 1987, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 87-2909, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, October 24, 2014, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 15th day of September, 2014:

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-0425
Plaintiff,	
-v-	SECOND AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE
CECILIA NAPUTI RIOS, Defendant.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on June 3, 2011, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 005 I 021, situated in Koblenville, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 1,051 square meters, more or less, as shown on Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 005 I 01, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 16706 on March 11, 1983, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, October 24, 2014, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 15th day of September, 2014:

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Supreme Court dismisses appeal

The Supreme Court issued *ANZ Guam, Inc. v. Lizama*, which dismissed an appeal of a January 2001 amended default judgment and February 2013 order

directing a foreclosure sale. Jesus T. Lizama dba Victoria Hotel and J&JEV Enterprises argued that the trial court improperly issued the foreclo-

sure order because it relied on a defective default notice underlying the amended judgment, and he cured the default. The high court addressed

jurisdiction over the appeal of the amended judgment and foreclosure order—the threshold issue to be resolved before considering the merits of an

appeal. The court held it did not have jurisdiction over (1) the amended judgment because Lizama did not timely appeal the amended judgment, and (2) the foreclosure order because it was not a final order for purposes of reviewing

the amended judgment. Therefore, the court did not reach the merits of the case. The Supreme Court’s full opinion, 2014 MP 11, can be found at: <http://www.cnmilaw.org/supreme14.html>. (NMI Judiciary)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MHS PTSA meeting today

The Marianas High School will have a PTSA meeting today, Oct. 15, Wednesday, starting at 6:30pm at the Dolphin Theater. (PR)

Learn more about automotive trade today

The Universal Technical Institute will have a representative at Marianas High School today, Oct. 15, from 8:30am to 3pm, in the MHS Counseling Office. Students are invited to attend this presentation and hear more about careers in Automotive Trade offered at UTI. The UTI representative will be available at the Aquarius Beach Tower at 5pm to meet with parents as well. (MHS)

John Gonzales LIVE today will feature principals

The John Gonzales LIVE show tonight will feature the topic “Principals Leadership Month” with guests James DLG. Sablan, principal, San Antonio Middle School; Cherlyn Cabrera, principal, Marianas High School; and Leila F. Staffler, principal,

Kagman High School.

The show will air live today, Oct. 15, on TV Channel 14, from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. To participate in the discussion, contact via phone at 287-9413; text at 285-META (6382), or email johngonzaleslive@gmail.com.

The show also rebroadcasts on www.betelnutradio.com. It will be replayed on Monday, Oct. 20, and Tuesday, Oct. 21, on TV Channel 14, also from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. (PR)

Free business training on Rota today

The CNMI Small Business Development Center will be offering a free business training seminar on Rota today, Oct. 15, at Rota’s Northern Marianas College (Room A-2) from 10am to 12pm. The seminar will be limited to a maximum of 30 persons so register now by calling 532-9478/51 or 664-3018. Business owners, prospective owners, or clients are encouraged to attend. (SBDC)

Navy, Marines training on FDM tomorrow

The U.S. Navy and U.S. Ma-

rines will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla tomorrow, Oct. 16 from 7pm to 11pm. The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—re advised to stay clear of the area during the times and dates indicated. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. (PR)

Outreach for women with bleeding disorders

Tomorrow, Oct. 16, Dr. Tiffany Lin, pediatric hematology (blood disorder) fellow at University of California at San Francisco and pediatrician at the Commonwealth Health Center, and Pam Carhill, MPT of Marianas Health’s Pacific Wellness Center, will be doing outreach and education on Von Willebrand’s Disease at the Thursday Street Market. Lin and Carhill will be passing out educational materials and speaking individually with persons who think they may have a child with a bleeding disorder. For any inquiries call 483-0162. (PR)

Library Association Fundraiser Oct. 17

The Commonwealth Association of Archives, Libraries and Museums is still selling tickets for its fundraising event on Oct. 17, 2014 at the Pacific Islands Club, 6pm to 9pm. Funds raised will go toward defraying the cost of attending the 24th annual Pacific Islands Association of Libraries, Archives and Museums Conference, on Nov. 10 - 15 in Koror, Palau. For tickets or questions regarding the fundraiser, contact Greg Sablan at 237-6798 or gre-

gorio.sablan@marianas.edu, Erlinda Naputi at 235-7322 or ecnaputi@gmail.com. (PR)


Free screening of new documentary

Voices of the Marianas will be screening a new documentary about the making of an improvisational play. Titled *What We Really Think*, the documentary is directed by Barbara Sher and features Marianas High School students as the cast and Galvin Deleon Guerrero as the videographer. The documentary will be shown at the American Memorial Park

on Oct. 17, at 7pm. It’s free and open to the public. (PR)


SDA School to host bowling tournament

The Saipan SDA School will be hosting its first Bowling Tournament on Oct. 19, 2014, at the Saipan Bowling Center at J’s Restaurant. There will be cash prizes of \$120 for first place; \$100 for second place; and \$80 for third place. Registration starts at 1pm; games start at 1:30pm. Tickets cost \$15. Visit the Saipan SDA School website for more information or call 234-7326



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-15-001

Steel Roof Enclosure for CUC Rota Power Plant Used Oil Secondary Containment No. 1, Songsong Village Rota, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced construction firms for Steel Roof Enclosure for CUC Rota Power Plant Used Oil Secondary Containment No. 1 in Songsong Village, Rota.

Contractor shall provide and pay for all the labor, materials, tools, equipment, transportation, temporary construction of every nature and all other services and facilities necessary to execute, complete and deliver the work within the specified time frame.

A pre-proposal site visit is scheduled for 10:00 AM (ChST) on October 30, 2014 at the Rota power plant. All potential proposers are encouraged to attend, to familiarize themselves with the site conditions. However the site visit is not mandatory for the potential proposers, owing to the difficult logistics and uncertain air transport.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers for this RFP must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division by November 7, 2014, 10:00 AM (ChST) to be considered.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC RFP -15-001, Steel Roof Enclosure for CUC Rota Power Plant Used Oil Secondary Containment No. 1” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than November 18, 2014 at 10:00 AM (ChST).**

The Proposer is required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor’s Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page – <https://marianaslabor.net/>.

A Proposal Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. *A Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.*

Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers. All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proposer awarded a contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 24, 2104 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Stipulated Order 2 Project Coordinator via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER


Executive Director,

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

MANNY B. SABLAN


Purchasing Officer,

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



INVITATION TO BID

NMHC IFB 2014-005



This ad is paid for with HUD funds.

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, hereby give notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Rehabilitation Project in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning Thursday, September 25, 2014, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI and austerity holidays.

Bidders are also advised that this project is subject to compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act. All wage rates for laborers, mechanics and all other employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid the current minimum wage or the wage determination for the Commonwealth as specified in CM140001 for the Mariana Islands.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, October 3, 2014, at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project site, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders’ understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

Sealed Bids must be marked NMHC IFB 2014-005. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director, Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, Friday, October 17, 2014. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, Friday, October 17, 2014 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside of the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U. S. Postal Service or the official government postal service no later than Friday, October 17, 2014 AND must be received by Procurement and Supply no later than Friday, October 24, 2014. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, Monday, October 27, 2014. However, if no Notices of Intent to Bid are received from bidders outside of the CNMI, the bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m., local time, Friday, October 17, 2014.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be in the form of a Certified Check, Cashier’s Check, or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: “Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Rehabilitation Project”. Surety companies must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, “Local Business Preference” is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment Bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. Pursuant to Governor’s Directive 251 dated March 15, 2006, bidders are required to include a Clearance from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner with respect to the financial bonding capability of the bidders’ chosen Surety.

Performance time for completion of this project is Thirty (30) calendar days. Liquidated damages will be assessed at One Hundred Dollars (US\$100.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) provided to the Commonwealth. This project is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires recipients of HUD funds and the contractors to help insure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents and the businesses that serve them “to the maximum extent feasible.”

NMHC hereby notifies bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

All documents received shall be the sole property of the NMHC with the exception of the Bid Bond, Certified Check, or Cashier’s Check, which will be returned to the proposers after the acceptance and award of contract to the successful contractor.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of NMHC, to do so would be in its best interest. All proposals will become the property of the Government.

/s/Marcie M. Tomokane

NMHC Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/Herman S. Sablan, Director

Division of Procurement & Supply

\$13M available to help CNMI's small businesses secure loans

Acting governor Jude U. Hofschneider met with senior leaders of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Commonwealth Development Authority, and banking institutions and a consultant who has worked with the U.S. Department of the Treasury to discuss strategies for committing \$13 million in CNMI Small Business Guarantee Funds.

The CNMI, through the Department of Commerce, was allocated \$13.2 million from the U.S. Department of the Treasury in March 2012. To date, the program has helped five local businesses create eight jobs but much of the local opportunity for participation remains untapped.

"The SSBCI Program has the potential to retain the full \$13.2 million in funding that can be used in perpetuity to support CNMI's businesses," said Nancy Montoya, the consultant who has worked on developing and promoting the program in the U.S. with the Department of the Treasury and other regulators. "The beauty of these funds is that they have been designed to fill lending gaps where other programs can't—mainly for otherwise creditworthy businesses



Consultant Nancy Montoya, second from right, poses with acting governor Jude U. Hofschneider, CDA executive director Manual Sablan, acting Commerce secretary Mark O. Rabauliman, and other Commerce officials.

that have shortfalls in collateral or cash flow in the initial stages of start-up or expansion."

The SSBCI program has several unique features, including the ability to guarantee loans to non-U.S. citizens and design deferred loan payments that enable the borrower to service bank loans while building cash flow for future full payments.

"We believe that there are worthy businesses here that should take advantage of these guarantees if they were aware of them," said Hofschneider.

He pointed out that many of the economic development projects underway in the CNMI involve businesses that could qualify, such as subcontractors for public works or those engaged in the targeted development areas of agriculture and aquaculture. Retail businesses and small contractors are also excellent candidates for the program.

The U.S. Small Business Administration's 2012 Small Business Profile of the CNMI estimates that 45 percent of all business establishments em-

ploy less than 20 employees and 27 percent employ less than 100 employees. With job creation as one of the primary goals of the SSBCI programs, these businesses are ideally poised to use these guarantees to expand their businesses.

CDA executive director Manual Sablan said the SSBCI program has strong support from a few local banks but that there is plenty of opportunity to increase bank participation in the program.

"Even if a bank is not able to

make the loan they could refer the loan to our local Small Business Development Center, who can then review the request to see if another bank would be a better fit. This way the bank gets to keep the deposit and service business from the customer while still helping to provide access to capital. It's a win-win for everyone when these guarantees work," Sablan said.

Acting Commerce secretary Mark O. Rabauliman adds: "This is a great opportunity for our local entrepreneurs to apply for capital for start-ups, buy-outs, or business expansion. I encourage them to take this opportunity."

The group will explore how their agencies might collectively identify businesses that could benefit from these guarantees as well as encourage greater bank participation in the program.

Other efforts include the CDA's Small Business Expo, which will be held at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Sandcastle Theatre on Oct. 25, 2014, from 9am to 12pm. Businesses who would like to learn more about the SSBCI and other loans and services are encouraged to attend. (PR)

High surf to subside today

A high surf advisory is in effect until 6am today, Wednesday.

According to the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management, light to gentle south winds and combined seas of 6 to 8 feet will gradually diminish to between 2 to 4 feet on Saturday. A nearly stationary front just north of Saipan will generate scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Saipan and Tinian waters.

Buoy readings from the Marianas and computer model data indicate north-northwest swell from former Typhoon Vongfong continue to impact the Marianas. Hazardous surf of 7 to 9 feet along north facing reefs will fall below hazardous levels today.

The public is advised to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those along west and north facing reefs as rip currents will be life threatening. (HSEM)



Students of Keynotes School of Music who will perform at a fundraising concert on Oct. 18, 2014, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe take a break from one of their many rehearsals to pose for this group picture.

Keynotes students invite public to their concert

A select group of Keynotes School of Music students will hold a fundraising concert titled "Musical Parade on Memory Lane" on Oct. 18, 2014, starting at 6pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The concert will feature a repertoire of golden oldies from circa 1910 to 1980.

Prior to the concert, starting

at 3pm, KSM is also holding a recital titled "Autumn Musical Wonders" that will be participated mostly by beginner students.

The concert aims to raise fund needed to send two Keynotes students to Guam next year to compete in the 2015 Tumon Bay Music Festival.

The concert's spotlight will

focus on Keynotes' six most notable piano and voice students led by 14-year-old Erica Faye Tubera, the Tumon Bay Festival's 2013 and 2014 gold medalist and 2013 NMC Charter Day Marianas Idol grand winner—just a few of her victories in competitions since she started singing at age 2.

The concert also celebrates

the outstanding singing talent of Shane Sabino and Juliet Inocencio. Singing honors recently earned by the 8-year-old Sabino are 2013 CNMI Got Talent and 2014 NMC Charter Day's Marianas Idol grand winner. Nine-year-old Inocencio, on the other hand, is a powerful songster who gave a stirring rendition of Adele's *Rolling in the Deep* at

the 2014 Little Ms. Pusong Pinoy, the contest which she won by besting 19 other contestants.

The concert will also feature three other KSM's rising piano and voice talents starting with Aiko Erungel who loves singing and was a contestant in the 2014 Miss Marianas Teen, 10-year-old Mark Ira Galang, a promising singer who has been taking

voice lessons at Keynotes for two years now and the little girl whose dream is to become a professional singer, 8-year-old Mica Ella Sune.

Keynotes School of Music is inviting the general public to the recital and concert on Oct. 18, 2014, at Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. Both shows guarantee wholesome entertainment for the family and for a good cause.

There will be free admission for the recital. Entrance ticket to the concert costs \$5 per person. (KSM)

San Diego organization hopes to raise \$3K for Rota relief



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Officers of the CNMI San Diego Club, from left, first treasurer Ashley Schultz, president David Atalig, secretary Shirley Lababit, and vice president Frank Novita.

An organization in San Diego made up of former residents of the CNMI and those who have roots on the islands have launched a fundraising campaign for Rota after hearing news that its residents are short of essential commodities in the wake of Typhoon Vongfong last week.

Those wishing to donate can do so by retyping the link www.gofundme.com/cnmiscclub. GoFundMe is a crowd-funding platform that allows people to raise money for events ranging from life events such as celebrations and graduations to challenging circumstances like accidents and illnesses.

CNMI San Diego Club president David Atalig said the fundraising campaign for the southernmost island of the Commonwealth came about after a couple of members came to him who were concerned about the situation on Rota, especially the shortage of food after Typhoon Vongfong hit the

island last Oct. 6.

“We, as a club, decided to assist and have a fundraiser because they wanted to donate and help. We figure we can assist by taking donations online via the gofundme.com and link it to our CNMI San Diego Club’s bank account,” Atalig said.

Atalig, who used to be financial and administrative services director of the Northern Marianas College, said the organization hopes to raise \$3,000 for its Rota relief efforts.

“I would like to thank all those who donated and those who will be donating. I appreciate their thoughtfulness for our family and friends on Rota and the CNMI. The CNMI San Diego Club is willing to give all those that donate an official receipt to get a tax credit for their donation,” he said in a social media message to *Saipan Tribune*.

Atalig is currently the finance director of the housing, dining, and hospitality depart-

ment of the University of California-San Diego.

“My message to the people of Rota is that we may be miles apart but our love and support will link us together. We will do our best to help our brothers and sisters, not only on Rota, but the whole CNMI. We pray for those that are displaced and hope for all to return back to normal,” he said.

The CNMI San Diego Club has several hundred members and is officially a recognized non-profit organization—a 501(c)(3)—organization, according to Atalig.

Typhoon Vongfong left 180 people on Saipan, 25 people on Tinian, and 22 people on Rota seeking refuge at the respective designated emergency shelters on the three islands.

On Rota, three Bangladeshi nationals lost their home made of tin and wood when Typhoon Vongfong blew it away early morning of Oct. 6. *(Mark Rabago)*



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

INVITATION TO BID

ITB15-GOV-008

Department of Public Safety Building Renovations San Jose Village, Tinian CNMI

Mayor of Tinian, Ramon Delacruz is soliciting sealed bids for the DPS Building Renovations, on the island of Tinian, San Jose Village, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available Friday, October 17, 2014 at the Governor’s Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Administrator’s Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A \$50.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference/site visit for this project on Wednesday, October 29, 2014, 10:00AM ChST at the project site, San Jose Village, Tinian. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM ChST, Friday, October 31, 2014 to the CIP Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408. All responses to questions should be shared with other prospective contractors.

Sealed bids must be marked “ITB15-GOV-008, Department of Public Safety Building Renovations San Jose Village, Tinian CNMI”. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 9:00 AM ChST Friday, November 14, 2014. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 AM ChST Friday, November 14, 2014 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than Friday, November 14, 2014 and must be received no later than Tuesday, November 25, 2014 ChST. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 9:00 AM ChST Wednesday, November 26, 2014. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 9:30 AM ChST Friday, November 14, 2014.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier’s check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: “Credit Account No. 44660”. If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Government Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is one hundred eighty (180) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per day, or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by one hundred eighty (180) calendar days, the contract time and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING ON MASTER CONCESSION AT THE SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the Open Government Act and Public Law 4-60 as codified in 4 CMC 2201 et. seq. including Section 2206, that the Commonwealth Ports Authority Board of Directors and Management hereby convenes a Public Hearing on the following question:

The Commonwealth Ports Authority agreement with DFS Saipan Ltd. Successive Master Concession Agreement presently in effect is scheduled to expire on November 15, 2015. The Board’s Ad Hoc Committee on Master Concession has conducted its review of the contract history and presented that background to the Board, Management and the Community. The Board has also engaged Ricondo & Associates to conduct a facilities and financial review of the concession issue, the report of which the Board has received and also has been made public. The Board has published the information on the Master Concession issue on its website for public review and information. The action by the Board follows the communications from DFS Saipan Ltd. of its desire to secure a new or extension of the Successive Master Concession Agreement. In light of the foregoing, the Board hereby solicits public comments and input as to which approach the Commonwealth Ports Authority should consider as to the Master Concession issue, including the options set out in the statute as well as the recommendations and findings by Ricondo & Associates and why such an approach is in the best interest of the Authority.

The Public Hearing on Master Concession shall take place on **Thursday, October 16, 2014** starting at 5 pm at the Commonwealth Ports Authority ARFF Training/Conference Room, and shall end at approximately 9 pm subject to the call of the Hearing Chairman, Mr. Barrie Toves, Chairman of the Board Ad Hoc Committee on Master Concession. For directions to the Hearing venue, please call 237-6500, the CPA Administration Office.

Interested persons may provide written comments in advance of the hearing and direct them to Mr. Barrie Toves, Chairman, Ad Hoc Committee on Master Concession, c/o CPA Administration Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. **The deadline for any written comments shall be 5 pm on October 16th to be received by CPA.** Written comments from Tinian and Rota persons or interested members may be delivered to the CPA Port Manager Office at the Airport on Tinian and Rota by 5 pm on October 16th. Comments may also be received via e-mail to the following e mail address on or before the same deadline of 5 pm October 16th to: cpa.receptionist@pticom.com with a subject heading: “MASTER CONCESSION MATTER: COMMENTS BY (NAME)”. All persons submitting written comments shall provide their complete name, mailing address, contact number and e mail, if available, for verification if necessary.

At the Public Hearing, all persons shall be allowed a maximum of five (5) minutes of comment period per person or per entity represented. Each person speaking shall identify himself or herself and inform the Chairman of their affiliation, if any. All comments shall be directed to the Chairman and each speaker shall conduct themselves in a professional, courteous and respectful manner. The Chairman shall remove from the ARFF Conference Room, for cause, any speaker or person who causes any disruption or interruption of the proceedings. There shall be no placards or signs indicating any opposition or support for any entity or option. No speaker or commentator shall pose any questions to the Chairman or Committee members nor to any other person at the hearing. All comments shall be confined to the question and comments which deviate from the question will not be considered. The proceedings shall be recorded but the oral comments at the meeting shall not be transcribed. The Chairman reserves the right to call for any breaks but the Public Hearing shall proceed forward until the designated hour of termination and may, for good cause, extend the meeting until 10 pm. There shall be no extensions nor continuances of the Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing is for the purpose of informing the Board of the community and stakeholders’ views on the matter of the Master Concession. The Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Ports Authority encourages a full and robust hearing to receive all views and opinions. However, all are informed that the discretion and ultimate decision as to which option to pursue is left to the discretion of the Board of the Commonwealth Ports Authority to act and determine what is in the best interest of the Authority in the exercise of their fiduciary duties.

/s/BARRIE C. TOVES

CHAIRMAN

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON MASTER CONCESSION

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

World must fight Ebola at its source

The following editorial appeared in the Raleigh News & Observer on Friday, Oct. 10:

Indifference fueled the early stages of the Ebola epidemic. The World Health Organization was slow to realize the power of the outbreak, and once it declared an emergency in early August, the world was slow to respond. It was a problem for West Africa, not the world.

That early indifference allowed the epidemic to spread through the West African nations of Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea until it became a wave that has touched Spain and United States. And it might have contributed to early gaps in U.S. efforts to keep out the disease. A Liberian man entered the United States on Sept. 20 infected with Ebola and was sent home from a Dallas hospital after complaining of fever. He returned three days later with full-blown symptoms of the virus. He died last week.

The Dallas incident alerted officials and the public that Ebola is no longer far away. It can reach the United States. Fortunately, federal officials are responding strongly now. They've ordered health screenings including fever tests at five big U.S. airports that receive 94 percent of the travelers from Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone. Ocean ports may also need screening. Hospital officials have also stepped up precautions to identify and isolate any patient who shows signs of the virus. No defense against Ebola will be perfect, but the United States has made a good start.

"We believe these new measures will further protect the health of Americans, understanding that nothing we can do will get us to absolute zero risk until we end the Ebola epidemic in West Africa," said Tom Frieden, director of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

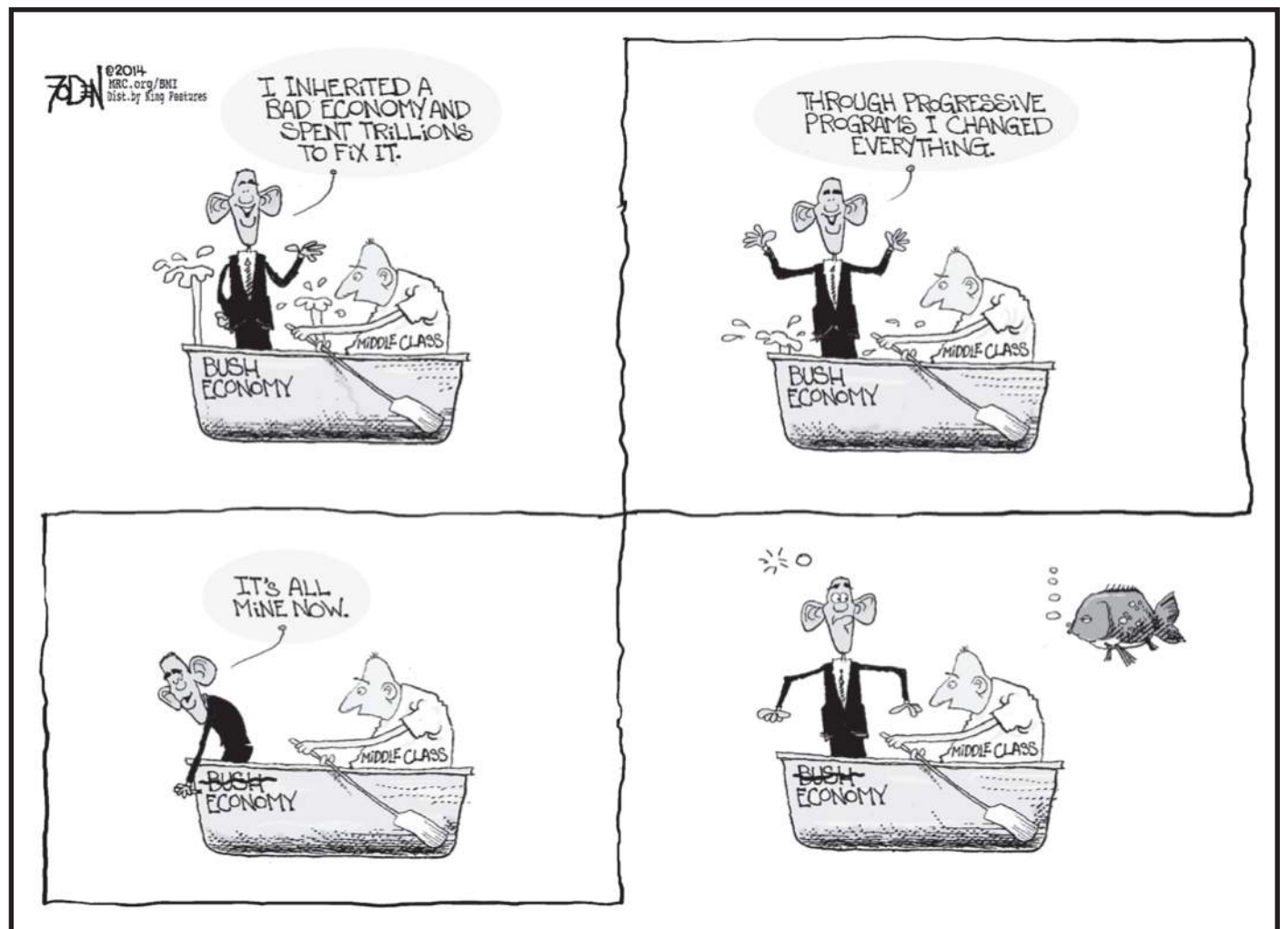
Frieden's observation emphasizes the key point about controlling the epidemic. Strong identification and precautionary measures in the United States from screenings to quarantines are necessary and travel restrictions may have to be imposed, but what is most important is putting out the epidemic at its center. The need to keep that focus makes it reprehensible for conservatives to exploit the crisis by tying it to their zeal to close the nation's southern border.

North Carolina State House Speaker Thom Tillis, the GOP challenger to Democratic U.S. Sen. Kay Hagan, was the latest to feed Ebola hysteria in the United States. In his second debate with Hagan, Tillis said, "Ladies and gentlemen, we've got an Ebola outbreak, we have bad actors that can come across the border. We need to seal the border and secure it." What needs to be secured is Thom Tillis' nutty idea.

President Barack Obama and CDC officials have made the right push toward ending the epidemic. The president has sent troops to help with logistics in West Africa along with medical supplies and personnel. Other nations must also contribute. This is not a situation in which the cost of success should matter. The cost of failure will be higher.

Known infections from Ebola now exceed 8,000, and nearly 4,000 have died. Those numbers are ominous given the math of uncontrolled epidemics. The Washington Post reports that, "Ebola cases in West Africa have been doubling about every

See WORLD on Page 11



The playground

I strained my back rolling over a sizeable granite slab to put a sign to block the pathway used by cars to park on our community playground. It was built before the influx of private cars. Parking for private cars is now at a premium and the bold ones just park on the playground.

There are benches in the "park" where grannies and mommies watch children play during the day. The equipment is in sad disrepair. Three walkers where folks stood and simulated walking are blocked by two tall but smelly trash bins. Of the three girth reducers where one stood on discs to swivel foot to-and-fro and move the midsection about, only one out of three is still working. I moved the bins; can't do much with the broken equipment.

At the center of the playground is an island where remnants of roses and peonies of previous summers still grow. Draped on the play equipment, or hanging on makeshift lines, are laundries to dry.

There are three lampposts, one at an end of the center island, and two at the ends of the park and playground. A bulletin board stands at another end of the island, made of glass that has a big hole on one side after someone's baseball was thrown against it, creating a hole the size of a basketball.

The bulletin board is very well used. Posting notices is China's pastime and they are everywhere. The lampposts serve as notice boards, especially ads with shredded lower bottoms where an advertiser's phone number is printed for folks to take.

When I moved into the neighborhood in March, the bins by the lamppost were full; renovation debris was uncollected. It must have been there a good while from the looks of the plastic bags that held the discarded gravel. Meanwhile, the lamppost grew leaves from the preponderance of posted notices.

Parking arrogance were two cars that were a mainstay on the playground weeks on end, getting grannies and mommies to admonish their tots from playing near the cars lest they inadvertently do them harm. Two blocks west is a playground off the ground that allows only the children and their equipment to occupy the elevated flooring. However, serving six tenement buildings over-crowds the place quickly.

I decided to catalyze the clearing of the playground from parked cars.

I started quietly with the closest lamppost that I look at every morning from my solarium. I went to the trash bins underneath and picked up all the thrown garbage with my trash picker. That got the attention of the regular street cleaner. The following day, I put on gloves, arranged the renovation debris for easy pickup and scraped the accumulated ads on the post.

At the same time, I started working on my own building's staircase, sweeping the stairs and three landings (I live on the second floor) from the third down to the basement. The street cleaner

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



keeps his equipment in the stairs leading to the basement, dusty with years of dirt, so I tidied that one, too. Pretty soon, we became nodding acquaintance. For the coup d'grace, I placed planters on the first landing and the stair windows between floors.

The street cleaner noticed the change. I brought him a can of instant coffee when I recently returned from North America. He's a tea drinker but gift giving is a revered symbolic tradition in China. He probably keeps the container on display. Touched, he volunteered his name. It is easy to remember since my name is Wang Zhimu in Chinese and his is Wang! Now, he keeps the front of my street door swept, the area around the lamppost clear of trash, and the phone numbers on my stairwell walls washed or painted over. He kept the lampposts and my ground door ad-clear while I was away.

I had "Please do not park on the playground" written and printed in Chinese; I taped a copy on every car that parked on the playground during the day. Drivers started to avoid parking on the playground. Soon the kids had space to ride their bikes and spin their tops. The night parkers got taped like their day counterparts but the parking was still a worrisome violation. Thus the sign on the rolled granite stone.

It will be six months since I moved to the tenement housing. Some of my plants have white flowers that bloom in the morning and pink ones in the evening; I leave the solarium lit until I retire for the night to give the passing crowd aesthetic pleasure. The closest lamppost to my view no longer has notices and an elderly lady keeps the farthest lamppost tidy.

She is the same elderly lady who regularly brings a child to the playground. One day she saw a man drop an empty pack of cigarettes on the ground; she picked it up for the bin. The guy saw what transpired and quietly went his way. I had seen him many times again but he is no longer careless with his empty packs.

Meanwhile, the granite stone with the sign that requests no parking is still in place, and half the neighbors installed metal parking locks on the ground for their cars. My backache is taking its bloody time to heal, oh, so slowly!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have this information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Strengthening education policy

We've gone in and out of arguments to grant U.S. citizens here jobs. We do so to the extent where we even unjustly vilify better-educated guest workers in private industries.

As we venture into the emerging controversy, we equally ignore that prevailing conditions hailed from being sheltered for decades in "everything is government." Regressive policy adaptation!

Have we heard anything at least from the Legislature's heads of committees on education to address this issue? Or are they still snoozing on the switchboard? It's about formulating comprehensive policy on education, encouraging locals to engage in skills acquisition at the high school or college level to prepare for competition at the job market.

According to a Heritage Foundation study on education and economic freedom, "education enhances people's efforts to lift themselves out of poverty and earn their own success through hard work and entrepreneurship. Contrary to popular misconception, empirical evidence indicates that the free-market principles that underlie economic freedom are the most effective means of producing these desirable educational outcomes for most people."

"Most can agree on basic standards of literacy and other requirements for an educated citizenry facing the demands and opportunities of the information economy of the 21st century..." The long-term goal in the "social pyramid is the placement of top leaders at the apex, good executives in the middle, and highly civic conscious broad mass at the base." It could be done through education!

"In a globalized world, students from Ohio are no longer merely competing with students from across the state or the country, but with students from around the world. In order to remain competitive, educational systems need flexibility, competition, and choice—the foundations of economic freedom.

"Literacy and Basic Education. One of the most easily recognized indicators of the success of a society's provision of basic social goods is the literacy of its citizens. Literacy is the foundation for continued success in advanced information-age economies as well as increased educational and economic achievement throughout the lifetimes of its citizens.

"Higher Education. A country's capacity to provide high-quality primary and secondary educational opportunities is a key compo-

nent of its future success. For a country to become competitive globally, however, it must have educational facilities and private business enterprises that employ innovative, highly productive people who are able to do cutting-edge research and to develop groundbreaking goods and services.

"These qualities depend largely on the strength of a country's institutions of higher learning. The higher levels of education and training that workers receive translate into not just higher salaries, but into more productive and innovative economies.

"Finally, and most importantly, widespread literacy is a vital requirement for a healthy constitutional democratic republic and the wellbeing of its people."

'Great teachers...'

With school opening, I'm sure parents must have asked the question who would be their kids' teachers. Indeed, it is most fitting that such query is asked forthwith.

Ms. Dana Goldstein, author of *The Teacher Wars*, recently published by Doubleday, and a staff writer for the Marshall Project, wrote that great teachers:

• **Have active intellectual lives outside their classrooms.** Economists have discovered that teachers with high SAT scores or perfect college GPAs are generally no better for their students than teachers with less impressive credentials. But teachers with large vocabularies *are* better at their jobs because this trait is associated with being intelligent, well read and curious.

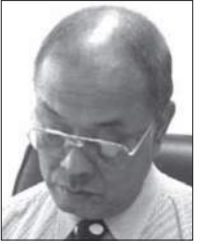
In 1903, W.E.B. Du Bois, who once taught in a one-room schoolhouse in rural Tennessee, wrote that teachers must "be broad-minded, cultured men and women" able to "scatter civilization" among the next generation. The best teachers often love to travel, have fascinating hobbies or speak passionately about their favorite philosopher or poet.

• **Believe intelligence is achievable, not inborn.** Effective educators reject the idea that smarts are something that only some students have; they expect all children to perform at high levels, even those who are unruly, learning disabled, or struggling with English.

How can you tell if a teacher has high expectations? Ask your child if he or she has learned anything new today. Research suggests that most students already know almost half of what is taught in most classes. Lame teachers—like one I watched spend a full 10

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



minutes explaining to a class in a Colorado Springs middle school that "denominator" refers to the bottom half of a fraction—spend too much time reviewing basic facts and too little time introducing deeper concepts.

• **Are data-driven.** Effective teachers assess students at the beginning of new units to identify their strengths and weaknesses, and then quiz students again when units end to determine whether concepts and skills have sunk in. Research from the cognitive psychologists Andrew Butler and Henry Roediger confirms that students score higher on end-of-year exams when quizzed by their teachers along the way.

• **Ask great questions.** According to the scholar John Hattie, when teachers focus lessons on concepts that are broader than those on multiple-choice tests, children's scores on higher-level assessments—like those that require writing—increase. How can you identify a high-quality question in your child's schoolwork? It tests for conceptual, not factual, understanding—not "When did the Great Depression occur?" but "What economic, social and political factors led to the Great Depression?"

"Parents shouldn't be the only ones looking for these four traits. Principals and policy makers should focus less on standardized test scores than on these more sophisticated measures of excellence. Together, we can create a groundswell of demand for great teaching in every classroom."

It's important for parents to quiz quality of instructions and it is equally vital that you don't leave everything to the teacher. A proactive role in the education of your kids would definitely help throughout the year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vote buying on Rota

The Thursday, Oct. 9, 2014, edition of the *Marianas Variety* and *Saipan Tribune* reported that Mr. Hee K. Cho, the owner of Rota Resort and Country Club, is helping residents of Rota with rice and butane gas because of the lack of shipping services to the island due to inclement weather. He will be giving rice and butane gas this week to selected households that are in dire need. Mr. Cho's intention is very admirable and we are grateful for his generosity. We urge the residents of Rota, including aliens, to avail of Mr. Cho's generosity. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

However, the way this is being handled is very political in nature and tantamount to vote buying because he is doing it at the request and urging of Sen. Paul A. Manglona, Sen. Jovita M. Taimanao, and of course, the Mayor of Rota, Melchor A. Mendiola. All of these three individuals are seeking re-election for the same public offices at the Nov. 4, 2014, general election. The timing of the food and gas distribution is very suspect because the Nov. 4 general election is around the corner. They are desperately trying to influence the Rota voters to vote for these three candidates because they received rice and bottles of butane. This type of activity is clearly vote buying and it is against the election laws of the Commonwealth. We urge the Commonwealth Election Commission and the Office of the Public Auditor to investigate this matter. It clearly has a political connotation, being that all three public officials are running for re-election. It can also be interpreted as bribery, being that Mr. Cho is a strong and loyal supporter of the three candidates. To put it bluntly, a sack of rice and a bottle of butane gas is very cheap price to buy votes. Hee K. Cho, Sen. Paul A. Manglona, Sen. Jovita M. Taimanao and Mayor Melchor A. Mendiola should be ashamed of their deed and motive in which the offer to help is not within their hearts but to influence the result of the general election in their favor. The scheme to help the

people of Rota through Mr. Cho is clearly unethical for Sen. Paul A. Manglona, Sen. Jovita M. Taimanao and Mayor Melchor A. Mendiola to do.

We deplore this type of action and if Mr. Cho's intention is sincere, we recommend that he donate the rice and butane gas to the American Red Cross NMI Chapter or the local church communities to oversee the distribution to those in needs.

We urge our people to avail of this charitable cause and still vote with their heads and not because they received a bag of rice and bottle of butane gas.

The situation on Rota with respect to the lack of rice and butane gas is not true. There is adequate supply on hand. However, we also encourage the appropriate government agency to investigate the practice of price gouging.

Teresita A. Santos

Member, House of Representatives

Language genocide

When an organization in the CNMI prevents a person from speaking his/her native language, the organization is committing language genocide. In the CNMI the native language is Chamorro and Carolinian. The Covenant established the relationship between the people of the Northern Marianas and the United States, as such the NMI Constitution, Article XXII, Section 3 established the official language in the CNMI which state: "[t]he official language of the Commonwealth shall be Chamorro, Carolinian, and English [...]."

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is hosting a 2014 Candidates Forum on Oct. 15 for Senate candidates, Oct. 16 for U.S. delegate candidates, and Oct. 27 for governor and lieutenant governor candidates. The SCC Forum's rule is requiring all candidates to speak English only.

The SCC intention is commendable but insensitive and an insult to our native Chamorro and Carolinian speakers. The candidates should be allowed to decide which of the official language

to use to express his/her position on any topics put forth for deliberation, rather than being restricted to English only. The SCC should be inclusive and not restrictive.

I wrote a letter to SCC to contest its English-only language whereby requiring all candidates to speak English only in the Forum. The SCC replied to my letter and informed me that the rule will remain unchanged for the reason that it has been their rule since previous forums. As a Senate candidate, I will not condone the practice of language genocide in the CNMI and I will not tolerate a display of arrogance and disrespect to our native Chamorro and Carolinian people. Therefore, my participation in the SCC 2014 Senate Candidates Forum on Oct. 15, 2014, will not be possible.

Jesus Ilo Taisague

Koblerville, Saipan

WORLD

From Page 10

three weeks, and officials have presented no evidence of a major change in that trendline."

The Post noted Frieden's assessment that, without major action to stop the epidemic, it could spread worldwide.






"The speed at which things are moving on the ground, it's hard for people to get their minds around. People don't understand the concept of exponential growth," he said. "Exponential growth in the context of three weeks means, 'If I know that X needs to be done, and I work my butt off and get it done in three weeks, it's now half as good as it needs to be.'"

The response is finally rising to the speed of the crisis. Scientists are working on drugs to treat the virus. People who survived Ebola are being studied for the keys to resistance, and some are giving their blood to Ebola victims. And health-care workers are bravely stepping forward to fight the virus in West Africa.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼77
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼79
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲83 ▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼78
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼78
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲83 ▼80

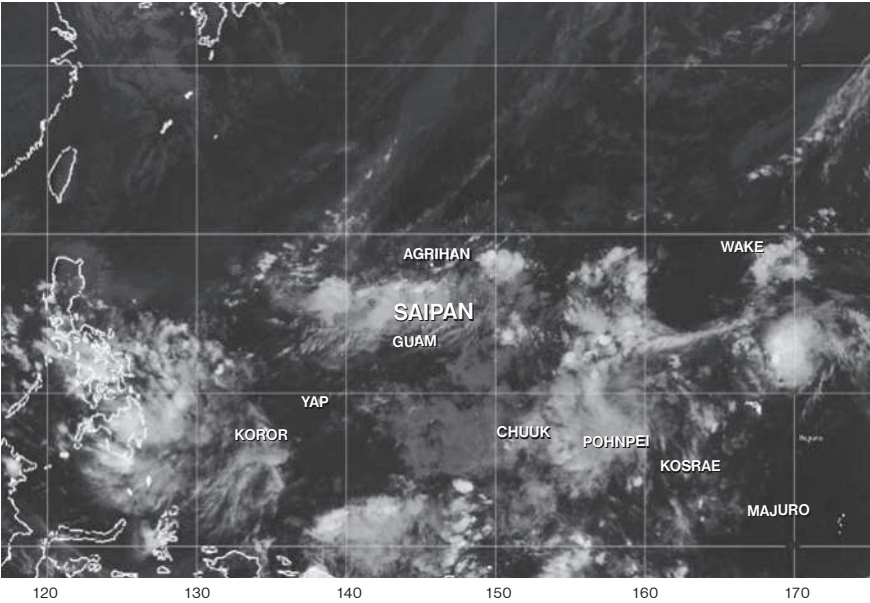
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲68 ▼48
Beijing	Sunny	▲69 ▼41
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲81 ▼73
Honolulu	Showers	▲85 ▼77
London	Showers	▲61 ▼54
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲80 ▼61
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	▲86 ▼74
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲61 ▼48
Miami	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼74
New York	Cloudy	▲73 ▼68
Osaka	Sunny	▲71 ▼53
Paris	Showers	▲64 ▼57
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲67 ▼56
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲82 ▼67
Salem	Showers	▲64 ▼51
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	▲65 ▼57
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲67 ▼52
Tokyo	Showers	▲66 ▼55
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	▲75 ▼60

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
7:36 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet	
2:58 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet	
8:40 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough near Iwo To extends southwestward from 25N143E to about 20N138E. Scattered showers are within 30 miles of the trough. A surface trough extends eastward from a weak circulation west of Saipan at 17N142E to 18N150E and northeastward to 22N166E then continues as a weak cold front to beyond 25N170E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over the Mariana Islands are between 18N and 15N from 140E to 150E. Patchy showers and a few thunderstorms east of 150E are along and up to 100 miles northwest of the cold front. A disturbance northwest of Koror is centered near 8N132E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms west of Yap and Koror are west of a line from 12N136E to 6N133E. Another area of scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near the equator southwest of Chuuk are south of a line from 1N138E to 3N147E. Another disturbance near Pohnpei is centered at about 9N158E with scattered showers and a few thunderstorms between 12N and 5N from 154E to 161E. Another weak circulation southeast of Wake Island is near 13N170E with scattered showers and a few thunderstorms between 17N and 11N from 167E to 175E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:09 AM	5:57 PM
Thursday	6:09 AM	5:56 PM
Friday	6:09 AM	5:56 PM
Saturday	6:09 AM	5:55 PM
Sunday	6:09 AM	5:55 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:44 PM	11:59 AM
Thursday		12:44 PM
Friday	12:33 AM	1:27 PM
Saturday	1:21 AM	2:08 PM
Sunday	2:09 AM	2:47 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS**
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS**
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI**
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE**
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN**
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
 - Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 9, 2014

DEPARTURES			ARRIVALS		
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN		
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am 3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am 3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm 6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm 6, 7
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm 1, 5	UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm 2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm 2, 4	UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm 1, 5
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm 1, 5	UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm 1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm 2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm 1, 5	UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm 1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)			GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)		
UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm 6, 7	UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm 2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN		
UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm 6, 7	UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm 2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)			PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN		
DL287	6:05am	11:30pm 2, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	3:05pm 3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN		
DL287	6:05am	8:40am Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:05pm Daily
DL297	4:20pm	7:20pm Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:30am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN		
QZ606	2:20am	6:00am 1	7C 3402	8:00am	1:25pm 5, 7
QZ606	2:50am	6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	QZ603	8:50am	2:20pm Daily
7C 3401	2:20pm	6:30pm 5, 7	7C 3402	9:30am	2:55pm 1, 2, 3, 4, 6
QZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm Daily	QZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1 7
7C 3401	4:00pm	7:45pm 1, 2, 3, 4, 6	QZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN		
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN		
MU764A	4:00am	8:00am 4, 7	MU763A	6:50pm	2:30am+1 3, 6
MU764	4:00am	8:00am 1, 5	MU763	7:20pm	3:00am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN		
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am 2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN		
QZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am 1 via ICN	QZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm Daily via ICN
QZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	PR110/UA5041	7:35am	6:35pm 1, 5 via GUM
UA5069/PR111	2:45am	4:50pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/UA5077	7:35am	8:05pm 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am 3, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/UA5043	7:35am	10:20pm 1, 5 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm 2, 5 via GUM	DL172/288	7:55am	1:30am+1 Daily via NRT
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm 3, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/473	6:05am	10:20pm Daily via NRT	QZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1 via ICN
UA5071/PR111	6:40am	4:50pm 3 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:25pm	7:30am+1 3 via GUM
UA5071/PR111	7:15am	4:50pm 1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1 1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm 3 via GUM	UA184/5039	10:25pm	2:00pm+1 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:45pm 2, 5 via GUM	UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:50pm+1 4 via GUM-Rota
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm 1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:50pm+1 1 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:30pm	9:10pm 6, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:35pm+1 1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	8:45pm 2 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:20pm	8:45pm 5 via GUM	UA184/5043	11:30pm	10:20pm+1 1 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:20pm	9:10pm 1 via GUM	UA184/5077	11:30pm	2:50pm+1 5 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	9:10pm 4 via GUM	UA184/5041	11:30pm	6:35pm+1 5 via GUM
QZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm 2, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1 2 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm 3 via GUM	UA184/5043	11:30pm	10:20pm+1 5 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm 1, 5, 6 via GUM	UA180/5071	9:55pm	7:30am+1 3 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:30pm	9:55pm 6 via Rota-GUM	UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1 1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:20pm	9:55pm 1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5039	9:55pm	2:00pm+1 6 via GUM
QZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:50pm+1 1, 5 via GUM-Rota
QZ604/749	3:30pm	11:40pm 7 via ICN	UA180/5041	9:55pm	6:35pm+1 1, 5 via GUM
			UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1 3, 6 via GUM
			UA180/5043	9:55pm	10:20pm+1 1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	SAIPAN TO ROTA		
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
SAIPAN TO TINIAN			ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Business

Poll: Many insured struggle with medical bills

WASHINGTON (AP)—They have health insurance, but still no peace of mind. Overall, 1 in 4 privately insured adults say they doubt they could pay for a major unexpected illness or injury.

A new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research may help explain why President Barack Obama faces such strong headwinds in trying to persuade the public that his health care law is holding down costs.

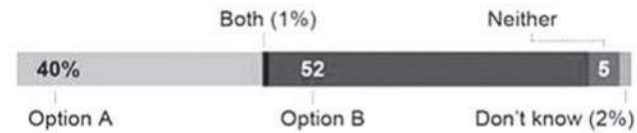
The survey found the biggest financial worries among people with so-called high-deductible plans that require patients to pay a big chunk of their medical bills each year before insurance kicks in.

Such plans already represented a growing share of employer-sponsored coverage. Now, they're also the mainstay of the new health insurance exchanges created by Obama's law.

Edward Frank of Reynoldsville, Pennsylvania, said he bought a plan with a \$6,000

Poll: Americans and health insurance

If offered a choice between the following two health insurance plans, which would you prefer: Option A, a plan with a relatively low monthly premium but higher out-of-pocket costs if you need health care. Option B, a plan with a relatively high monthly premium but lower out-of-pocket costs if you need health care.



How confident are you that you could pay for medical care if you or someone in your family had an unexpected major medical expense?



NOTE: Poll of 1,004 privately insured adults; conducted July 22 - Sept. 3, 2014; margin of error ± 4.1 percentage points.

SOURCE: AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research

AP

deductible last year through HealthCare.gov. That's in the high range, since deductibles for popular silver plans on the insurance exchanges average about \$3,100 - still a lot.

"Unless you get desperately ill and in the hospital for

weeks, it's going to cost you more to have this plan and pay the premiums than to pay the bill just outright," said Frank, who ended up paying \$4,000 of his own money for treatment of shoulder pain.

"The deductibles are so high,

you don't get much of anything out of it," said Frank, who is in 50s and looking for a new job.

The poll found that people respond to the hit on their wallets in ways that may not help their health:

■ Nineteen percent of all privately insured adults said they did not go to the doctor when they were sick or injured, because of costs. Among those with high-deductible plans, the figure was 29 percent.

■ Seventeen percent skipped a recommended test or treatment; it was 23 percent among those with high-deductible plans.

■ Eighteen percent of all adults went without a physical exam or other preventive care, 24 percent among those with high-deductible plans.

Sandra Chapman, a warehouse worker from Memphis, said she had to go without cholesterol medication last year because of issues with her prescription coverage. Instead of taking pills, she changed her diet.

"They only cover certain stuff and, I don't know, the rules change all the time," said Chapman, in her early 30s.

Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Mathews Bur-

well recently said part of the problem is that many consumers don't understand how to buy health insurance, or how to use their plan once they get their cards in the mail.

For example, there should be no reason to skip routine preventive care, since the health care law requires insurers to provide it at no charge to the patient.

"People need to understand how to use their health care," said Burwell. "We need to spend time educating people."

Only about half of those surveyed said they had a strong understanding of what their plans cover.

Consumers sometimes pick health insurance based on the monthly premium alone. But low-premium plans have higher deductibles and other out-of-pocket costs. People who are concerned about exposure to big bills can come out ahead financially by paying higher premiums for a plan that features lower out-of-pocket costs.

Indeed, the poll showed that a majority of those with private insurance, 52 percent, would rather pay a higher premium and limit out-of-pocket costs

than lower their premiums and potentially face higher out-of-pocket charges.

Many consumers also said they made financial trade-offs to pay medical bills:

■ Overall, 33 percent said they cut back on entertainment; it was 43 percent among those with high-deductible plans.

■ 18 percent said they used up all or most of their savings, 24 percent among those with high-deductible plans.

■ 19 percent said they dialed down their contributions for retirement savings, 28 percent for people with high-deductible plans.

One government definition sets the threshold for a high-deductible plan at \$1,300 for individual coverage, but actually annual deductibles of \$2,000 and even much higher are common.

Some people pair a high-deductible plan with a tax-sheltered savings account to pay their out-of-pocket costs - the poll found 40 percent who say they have high-deductible plans also have such an account. On the insurance exchanges, low-income people can receive additional help from the government for their cost-sharing expenses.

Why drop in oil prices has downside for US economy

NEW YORK (AP)—If you're a driver, a shipper or an airline, low oil prices sure feel nice. But there are downsides to the recent plunge in oil prices—for the oil industry and for the economy.

Low fuel prices can help boost economic growth by reducing fuel bills and leaving consumers and companies with more money to spend on other things. Problem is, two factors behind the oil-price drop—a weaker global economy and a stronger dollar—could hurt the U.S. economy by reducing exports, employment and spending. And all that, in turn, could outweigh the economic benefit of cheaper fuel.

"Initially, (a lower oil price) will provide a boost to an economy that already has some momentum," says Diane Swonk, chief economist at Mesirow Financial. "It's like a tax cut.

The problem is that it will come back to haunt us in 2015."

A boom in U.S. oil production, which has helped reduce dependence on foreign oil, has been propelled by high prices. Drilling in some areas of North Dakota and Texas, for example, produces only a slight output per day. If prices fell further, drilling would have to slow because it would no longer be profitable.

Oil hasn't fallen quite far enough for that to happen, analysts say. Even the more expensive drilling operations are still profitable when oil sells for \$85 a barrel, and oil closed just below \$86 on Monday. In general, oil companies would have to expect oil prices to stay below \$80 a barrel for many months to scale back their drilling plans.

Unless supplies drop, perhaps from a cut in production

from Saudi Arabia or OPEC, or a sudden turnaround in the global economy that would increase demand, prices could fall further.

"It's problematic," says Gary Ross, CEO of PIRA Energy Group. "The wake-up call is on its way."

In the meantime, drivers will be enjoying the lowest gas prices in four years. Tom Kloza, chief oil analyst at the Oil Price Information Service and Gasbuddy.com, says the national average could fall under \$3 a gallon before year's end for the first time since 2010.

Benchmark U.S. crude oil peaked in late June at \$107 after Islamic State fighters seized control of some cities and Iraq and seemed capable of disrupting exports from OPEC's second-largest exporter. Upheaval in Libya sharply cut its output.

Voiceprints being harvested by the millions

LONDON (AP)—Over the telephone, in jail and online, a new digital bounty is being harvested: the human voice.

Businesses and governments around the world increasingly are turning to voice biometrics, or voiceprints, to pay pensions, collect taxes, track criminals and replace passwords.

"We sometimes call it the invisible biometric," said Mike Goldgof, an executive at Madrid-based AGNITIO, one of about 10 leading companies in the field.

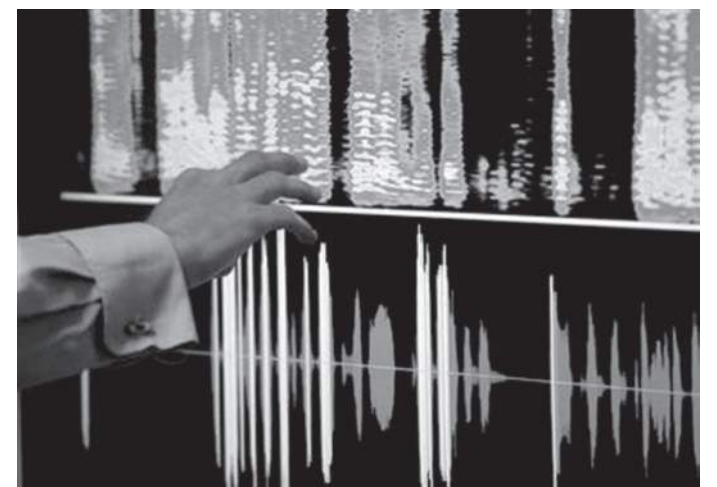
Those companies have helped enter more than 65 million voiceprints into corporate and government databases, according to Associated Press interviews with dozens of industry representatives and records requests in the United States, Europe and elsewhere.

"There's a misconception that the technology we have today is only in the domain of the intelligence services, or the domain of 'Star Trek,'" said Paul Burmester, of London-based ValidSoft, a voice biometric vendor. "The technology is here today, well-proven and commonly available."

And in high demand.

Dan Miller, an analyst with Opus Research in San Francisco, estimates that the industry's revenue will roughly double from just under \$400 million last year to between \$730 million and \$900 million next year.

Barclays PLC recently exper-



AP

In this photo taken Sept. 15, 2014, Benoit Fauve, a speech scientist with a voice recognition technology company ValidSoft, points to a screen displaying the voice biometric features of a telephone call during a demonstration at the company's office in central London.

imented with voiceprinting as an identification for its wealthiest clients. It was so successful that Barclays is rolling it out to the rest of its 12 million retail banking customers.

"The general feeling is that voice biometrics will be the de facto standard in the next two or three years," said Iain Hanlon, a Barclays executive.

Vendors say the timbre of a person's voice is unique in a way similar to the loops and whorls at the tips of someone's fingers.

Their technology measures the characteristics of a person's speech as air is expelled from the lungs, across the vocal folds of the larynx, up the pharynx, over the tongue, and out through the lips, nose, and

teeth. Typical speaker recognition software compares those characteristics with data held on a server. If two voiceprints are similar enough, the system declares them a match.

The Vanguard Group Inc., a Pennsylvania-based mutual fund manager, is among the technology's many financial users. Tens of thousands of customers log in to their accounts by speaking the phrase: "At Vanguard, my voice is my password" into the phone.

"We've done a lot of testing, and looked at siblings, even twins," said executive John Buhl, whose voice was a bit hoarse during a telephone interview. "Even people with colds, like I have today, we looked at that."



AP

In this Sept. 30, 2014 file photo, Dana Ripley, of Winthrop, Mass., fills the gas tank of his truck at a service station in Andover, Mass.

Nation

About 70 hospital staffers cared for Ebola patient

DALLAS (AP)—They drew his blood, put tubes down his throat and wiped up his diarrhea. They analyzed his urine and wiped saliva from his lips, even after he had lost consciousness.

About 70 staff members at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital were involved in the care of Thomas Eric Duncan after he was hospitalized, including a nurse now being treated for the same Ebola virus that killed the Liberian man who was visiting Dallas, according to medical records his family provided to The Associated Press.

The size of the medical team reflects the hospital's intense effort to save Duncan's life, but it also suggests that many other

people could have been exposed to the virus during Duncan's time in an isolation unit.

■■■■
DALLAS (AP)—A Dallas nurse who caught Ebola while treating a Liberian patient who died of the disease has received a plasma transfusion donated by a doctor who beat the virus.

Nurse Nina Pham was among about 70 staff members at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital who cared for Thomas Eric Duncan, according to medical records. The 26-year-old nurse was in his room often, from the day he was placed in intensive care until the day before he died.



AP
This 2010 photo provided by tcu360.com, the yearbook of Texas Christian University, shows Nina Pham, 26, who became the first person to contract the disease within the United States.

Pham and other health care workers wore protective gear, including gowns, gloves, masks and face shields - and sometimes full-body suits - when caring for Duncan, but Pham became the first person to contract the disease within the United States. Duncan died on Wednesday.

■■■■
On Monday, the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the infection of the nurse means the agency must broaden the pool of people getting close monitoring. Authorities have said they do not know how the nurse was infected, but they suspect some kind of breach in the hospital's protocol.

The medical records given to the AP offer clues, both to what happened and who was involved, but the hospital said the CDC does not have them.

A CDC spokeswoman said the agency reviewed the medical records with Duncan's care team and concluded that the documents were not helpful in identifying those who interacted directly with the patient.

"This is not something we can afford to experiment with. We need to get this right," said Ruth McDermott-Levy, who directs the Center for Global and Public Health in Villanova University's College of Nursing.

Until now, the CDC has been actively monitoring 48 people who might have had contact with Duncan after he fell ill with an infection but before he was put in isolation. The number included 10 people known to have contact and 38 who may have had contact, including people he was staying with and health care professionals who attended to him during an emergency room visit from which he was sent home. None is sick.

The CDC has not yet established a firm number of health care workers who had contact with Duncan.

"If this one individual was infected—and we don't know how—within the isolation unit, then it is possible that other in-

dividuals could have been infected as well," said Dr. Tom Frieden, director of the CDC. "We do not today have a number of such exposed people or potentially exposed health care workers. It's a relatively large number, we think in the end."

Caregivers who began treating Duncan after he tested positive for Ebola were following a "self-monitoring regimen" in which they were instructed to take their temperatures regularly and report any symptoms. But they were not considered at high risk.

Typically, the nurses, doctors and technicians caring for a contagious patient in isolation would be treating other people as well, and going home to their families after decontaminating themselves. The hospital has refused to answer questions about their specific duties.

The 1,400-plus pages of medical records show that nurses, doctors and other hospital employees wore face shields, double gowns, protective footwear and even hazmat suits to avoid touching any of Duncan's bodily fluids. Ebola spreads through direct contact with those fluids, usually blood, feces and vomit. The virus has also been detected in urine, semen and breast milk, and it may be in saliva and tears.

Pilot crash lands in vacant lot in Chicago suburb

CHICAGO (AP)—People living in a Chicago suburb on Monday looked at scattered pieces of a small plane and wondered if the last act of the pilot before his death was to spare residents' lives by crash landing in an empty lot on a crowded street.

Three physicians died in the crash late Sunday in Palos Hills, officials said.

"It looks like (the pilot) aimed for the one vacant spot," said Barbara Janusz, who lives with her daughter's family in Palos Hills. "I'm sure he sacrificed his own life for everybody else's."

Palos Hills Deputy Police Chief James Boie had the same thought after surveying the scene. He said neighbors told authorities they heard a sputtering engine and the aircraft circling before it crashed - a maneuver that could suggest a desperate search to land a crippled aircraft.

"I'd like to think that," Boie said. "That is the only vacant lot for (four) blocks."

The National Transportation Safety Board said there were no obvious reasons why the twin-engine Beechcraft Baron plane crashed in the suburb at about 10:40 p.m. Sunday, shortly after taking off from Chicago's Midway's International Airport. The Federal Aviation Administration

said the plane was heading to Lawrence, Kansas.

Two of the doctors who died had worked for Stormont-Vail HealthCare, the Topeka-based medical system said in a statement posted on its website. The company identified them as Tausif Rehman, a neurosurgeon, and pulmonologist Ali A. Kanchwala.

Stormont-Vail said the third victim was Kanchwala's wife, Maria Javaid, a cardiologist at the Providence Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas. It did not identify the pilot.

John Brannen, a NTSB investigator, said the pilot did not make a distress call before the plane "simply dropped off the radar."

Brannen said investigators would go to Midway, where the plane had been fueled, to take samples from the fuel truck to determine if there were any problems with the fuel. He also said investigators have not ruled out the overcast weather and the pilot's experience as possible factors in the crash.

Whatever happened, Janusz said the community about 20 miles southwest of downtown Chicago was spared a "total disaster, too awful to think about." About 50-60 people live on the street and another couple of hundred people live in apartments a block away.

Police: More than 50 arrested in Ferguson protests



AP
Pastor Charles Burton lies on the driveway at the Ferguson, Mo., police station as a chalk drawing is made as a memorial to Michael Brown, Monday, Oct. 13, 2014.

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP)—Pounding rain and tornado watches didn't deter hundreds of protesters Monday outside Ferguson police headquarters, where they stayed for almost four hours to mark how long 18-year-old Michael Brown's body was left in a street after he was fatally shot by police.

Organizers of the four-day Ferguson October protests dubbed the day "Moral Monday" and committed acts of civil disobedience across the St. Louis region. In addition to the initial march on Ferguson police headquarters, protesters blocked the entrance to a major employer, held a loud rally inside St. Louis City Hall, disrupted business at a Ferguson shopping center and three Wal-Mart stores and tried to crash a private fundraiser for a St. Louis County executive candidate where

U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill was scheduled to appear.

At the Edward Jones Dome Monday night, protesters briefly draped a banner over a Jumbotron video board that read "Rams fans know on and off the field black lives matter."

More than 50 people were arrested, including scholar and civil rights activist Cornel West.

West was among 42 arrested for peace disturbance at the Ferguson police station. Some protesters used a bullhorn to read the names of people killed by police nationwide. Christian, Jewish and Muslim clergy members - some of whom were among the first arrested - led a prayer service before marching to the station two blocks away.

Protests have been common since Brown, who was unarmed and black, was killed by a white Ferguson police officer

on Aug. 9. Tensions escalated last week when a white police officer in St. Louis shot and killed another black 18-year-old, Vonderrit Myers Jr., who police say shot at officers.

"My faith compels me to be here," Bishop Wayne Smith of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri said outside Ferguson police headquarters. "I want to show solidarity, and call attention to the structural racism of St. Louis."

Protesters were met by about 40 officers in riot gear. Several clergy members approached individual officers and asked them to "repent" for Brown's killing and other acts of violence. Some officers engaged the protesters, while others ignored the efforts.

"My heart feels that this has been going on too long," Ferguson officer Ray Nabzdyk told

the clergy. "We all stand in fault because we didn't address this."

Outside Emerson Electric headquarters in Ferguson, six people were arrested for failing to disperse after blocking a street, St. Louis County Police spokesman Brian Schellman said. Emerson is one of the region's largest employers.

At St. Louis City Hall, about 100 protesters blew whistles that echoed off the marble walls. Protest leader Kennard Williams presented a list of four demands to Jeff Rainford, chief of staff for Mayor Francis Slay. Slay was not in the office Monday.

The demands called for an end to participation in a program providing military equipment to police, body cameras for all officers, a civilian review board for police and mandatory independent investigations whenever police kill someone.

Asia

Workers clear debris after Indian cyclone kills 24

HYDERABAD, India (AP)—Rescue workers and soldiers cleared uprooted trees and electrical poles blocking roads in eastern India after a tropical cyclone killed at least 24 people and demolished tens of thousands of mud huts. In Japan, a tropical storm killed at least one person and injured 75 before heading out to sea Tuesday morning.

As weather improved in India on Monday, the air force used planes and helicopters to drop food packets in affected places in and around Visakhapatnam, the city hit worst by Sunday's severe cyclone, said a statement by India's Home Ministry.

Rescuers reached several coastal areas battered by the cyclone and evacuated 11,853 people in Andhra Pradesh state and 1,403 in Orissa state to safer places, the statement said.

Weather forecasters warned that heavy to very heavy rainfall would lash parts of six states as the remnants of the cyclone moved further inland.

Cyclone Hudhud's winds demolished about 80,000 thatched huts belonging to poor tribal people across Orissa state, said P.K. Mahapatra, the state's spe-

cial relief commissioner.

More than 6,500 homes were damaged in Andhra Pradesh state, said Parkala Prabhakar, a state government official.

Twenty-four deaths were counted as of late Monday, 21 in Andhra Pradesh state and three in Orissa, mostly because of injuries from collapsed walls and falling trees, officials said.

Andhra Pradesh government official Parkala Prabhakar said 15 were killed in Visakhapatnam, one of the largest cities in southern India and a major naval base. Television footage showed downed electrical poles, uprooted trees and debris strewn in the streets. Train and cellphone services were disrupted.

Electricity was disconnected in parts of Andhra Pradesh to avoid electrocutions, said Arvind Kumar, a relief and rescue official.

At least 400,000 people were evacuated from coastal areas of the two states ahead of the storm, and hundreds of shelters were set up to house them, helping to reduce casualties.

While India has a disastrous record of response to natural calamities, it safely evacuated

nearly a million people before Cyclone Phailin hit Orissa state last October. The strongest tropical storm to hit India in more than a decade, Phailin destroyed hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of crops but claimed only

about 25 lives.

The Indian Ocean is a cyclone hotspot. Of the 35 deadliest storms in recorded history, 27 have come through the Bay of Bengal and have landed in either India or Bangladesh.

In 1999, a cyclone devastated Orissa's coastline and killed at least 10,000 people.

In Japan, the body of a 90-year-old man who went missing while checking a persimmon orchard in the south-

western prefecture of Tottori was found in an irrigation canal. At typhoon strength earlier, the storm, named Vongfong, battered the southern islands of Okinawa before reaching the mainland.



SLOW RECOVERY

In this photo by Aaron Favila, a man uses a mallet to extract steel bars from a concrete post so he can sell the steel to a junkshop. The seafont location in Tacloban city, central Philippines, is in front of an oil plant and near a ship that washed ashore and smashed into houses during Typhoon Haiyan last November. The region is still trying to recover from the devastation wrought by one of the strongest typhoons to make landfall, killing at least 6,300 people and displacing more than 4 million.

AP

ASIAN BRIEFS

Hong Kong police remove more protest zone barriers

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong police removed some barricades on Tuesday from the edge of pro-democracy protest zones that have choked off roads for weeks, the second straight day they have taken such action and signaling their growing impatience with the student-led demonstrators. Dozens of police used electric saws and bolt cutters to dismantle the bamboo barriers that pro-democracy protesters had erected overnight after an angry mob led by a few dozen masked men tried to storm the barricades the day before. Police also cleared out protesters' tents and took down other makeshift barricades of plywood, trash cans and items collected by demonstrators to block a busy road on the periphery of the main protest zone in the former British colony.

Protesters demand Philippine custody of US Marine

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Dozens of people have protested at the American Embassy in Manila and demanded that Washington hand over to the Philippine government a U.S. Marine implicated in the killing of a Filipino. Jeffrey Laude was found dead, apparently strangled and drowned, beside a toilet bowl in a motel room

in Olongapo city, northwest of Manila, shortly after he checked in with a Caucasian man late Saturday. The foreigner escaped. U.S. Marine spokesman Col. Brad Bartelt said Tuesday that a Marine was being held on board the USS Peleliu in the Subic Bay free port in connection with a joint investigation into Laude's death. Dozens of young activists burned a mock American flag and demanded that U.S. authorities hand over the Marine to Philippine police.

Taliban mountain ambush kills 14 Afghan troops

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A mountain ambush by Taliban fighters killed at least 14 Afghan security force troops, authorities said Monday, as villagers elsewhere in the country alleged a NATO airstrike that the coalition said targeted militants actually killed civilians. The fighting in Sari Pul province, as well as the disputed NATO airstrike in eastern Paktia province, show the serious challenges facing new Afghan President Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai. Former President Hamid Karzai repeatedly clashed with NATO forces over civilian casualties from airstrikes, straining relations as public anger against the coalition grew. The ambush in Sari Pul, where Taliban fighters reportedly have been massing for days, happened Sunday in its Kohistanat district.

North Korean leader reappears in public with cane

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, smiling broadly and supporting himself with a cane, appeared Tuesday in state media for the first time in nearly six weeks, ending an absence that fed global speculation that something was amiss with the country's most powerful person.

The sudden resumption of the "field guidance" tours that had been a regular part of Kim's public persona before he stopped showing up in media reports for 40 days allowed the country's massive propaganda apparatus to continue doing what it does best - glorifying the third generation of Kim family rule. And it will tamp down, at least for the moment, rampant rumors of a coup and serious health problems.

Kim, while touring the newly built Wisong Scientists Residential District and another new institute in Pyongyang, "took necessary steps with loving care," a dispatch early Tuesday from the official Korean Central News Agency said in typical fawning style. The North didn't say when the



A man watches a TV news program showing North Korean leader Kim Jong Un using a cane during his first public appearance, at the Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2014.

AP

visit happened, nor did it address the leader's health.

The recent absence was, in part, "probably an attention-getting device and it certainly works," Bruce Cumings, an expert on Korea at the University of Chicago, said in an email.

"The North has been on a diplomatic offensive in Europe and elsewhere, it feels isolated and is, if we're talking about relations with Washington. All this puts them back on the front page."

Before Tuesday's dispatch, Kim had last been seen publicly at a Sept. 3 concert.

Foreign media had no trouble filling the void that followed. From "Saturday Night Live" spoofs to the wild theories of journalists across the globe trying to parse his growing absence from the public eye, Kim captured nearly as many headlines as he did when he threatened to nuke his enemies last year.

This ability to command attention by doing nothing says

a lot about the North's propaganda focus on Kim as the center of everything. Remove for 40 days the sun around which that propaganda spins and the international media, both traditional and social, exploded with curiosity.

And while there was plenty of informed analysis from experts and frequent visitors to Pyongyang that said it probably wasn't anything that serious, there seemed to be even more thinly sourced speculation.

Kim was, by turns, reported to be suffering from gout, from diabetes, from a brain hemorrhage, from a heart ailment, from a leg injury that required surgery from a French doctor, from mental illness or, according to a head-turning British report, from a cheese addiction. There were rumors of a coup.

The speculation was partly a result of Kim missing several high-profile events that he normally attends and his description in an official documentary last month as experiencing "discomfort." Archive footage from August showed him overweight and limping.

World

Militants take Iraq army camp as bombs hit Baghdad

BAGHDAD (AP)—Militants with the Islamic State group on Monday captured a military training camp in western Iraq, inching closer to full control of the restive Anbar province, as a spate of deadly bombings shook Baghdad, hitting mostly Shiite neighborhoods and leaving at least 30 dead.

The attacks, which came as Iraqi Shiites marked a major holiday for their sect with fami-

lies crowding the streets in celebration, raised new concerns that the Sunni militant group is making gains despite U.S.-led coalition airstrikes.

British Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond, on a visit to Iraq, warned that the airstrikes will not be enough to defeat the extremist group and stressed that the Iraqi security forces would have to do the “heavy work on the ground.”

But Iraqi troops, overstretched and overwhelmed by the Islamic State group’s summer blitz that seized large swaths of territory in western and northern Iraq, continued to come under pressure Monday in the western Anbar province, where militants seized an Iraqi military training camp.

The camp, near the town of Hit that fell to the insurgents earlier this month, was over-

run in the morning hours after clashes with Iraqi soldiers who were forced to abandon the camp and withdraw from the area, two Anbar officials told The Associated Press, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media. Town residents confirmed the camp’s fall, speaking to the AP also on condition of anonymity, fearing for their own safety.

The Islamic State group touted its conquest of the camp in a statement Monday. The statement could not immediately be verified but it was posted on militant websites commonly used by the group.

In Baghdad, which has largely been spared the violence seen in other parts of Iraq amid the Islamic State group’s onslaught, bombings killed at least 30 people and wounded scores more Monday.

Bishops say gays have gifts to offer church

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Catholic bishops signaled a radical shift in tone Monday about accepting gays into the church, saying they had gifts to offer and that their partnerships, while morally problematic, provided homosexual couples with “precious” support.

In a preliminary report, released half-way through a Vatican meeting on family life called by Pope Francis, the bishops also said the church must welcome divorcees and recognize the “positive” aspects of civil marriages and even Catholics who cohabit, as well as the children of these less traditional families.

While it does not change church doctrine, the tone of the report on a host of hot-button family issues such as marriage, divorce, homosexuality and birth control was one of almost-revolutionary acceptance

and understanding rather than condemnation. It will guide a closed-door debate until a final document is issued Saturday.

Gay rights groups hailed what they called a “seismic shift” in the church’s attitude toward gays.

“For the LGBT Catholics in the United States and around the world, this new document is a light in the darkness - a dramatic new tone from a church hierarchy that has long denied the very existence of committed and loving gay and lesbian partnerships,” said Chad Griffin, president of Human Rights Campaign, the biggest LGBT rights organization in the U.S.

Some conservative cardinals downplayed the report as insignificant or derided it as unacceptable, while conservative groups denounced it as heresy and a “betrayal” that will only serve to confuse Catholics.

France hits back at French bashers with Nobel wins

PARIS (AP)—France thinks it’s time to bash the French-bashers.

Seven years after Time magazine declared French culture “dead,” the country’s leaders are rallying behind their 2014 Nobel prize winners with a vengeance.

Minutes after French economist Jean Tirole won the Nobel prize for economics Monday—following French author Patrick Modiano’s win in literature last week—the country’s prime minister took to



Tirole

Twitter with the hashtag “Fiers-de-la-France (Proud of France).”

“After Patrick Modiano, another Frenchman among the stars: congratulations to Jean Tirole! What a thumb in the eye to french bashing!” Manuel Valls tweeted to his 90,500 followers.

The fact that this was the first Noble economics prize since 1999 without an American winner made Monday’s victory all the sweeter. Others in France’s beleaguered government also jumped on the Tirole bandwagon.

President Francois Hollande said the prize “puts a spotlight on the quality of research in our country” and Economy

Minister Emmanuel Macron said Tirole “makes our country and the French economics school proud.”

France’s economists are having a bit of a moment this year, with another French economist, Thomas Piketty,

publishing an English translation of his work “Capital in the 21st Century” that set the economics field ablaze.

The Nobel win comes, however, as France hasn’t balanced a budget in de-

cades, its economy is stagnant, joblessness is mounting and its deficit is rising despite repeated pledges to bring it within an EU-imposed threshold. Hollande is the most unpopular president in modern French history—and later this week France’s 2015 budget risks receiving an embarrassing rebuke from EU partners in Brussels.

France’s leaders would do well, once the champagne toasts are over, to read a recent interview with Tirole. In it, he noted that six out of seven top French economists on an International Monetary Fund list currently live in the U.S. or Great Britain; all seven studied there.

Sleepy Guyana wrestles with high rate of suicides

LESBEHOLDEN, Guyana (AP)—The young man responds all too easily when asked whether he knows anyone who has committed suicide in his village, a sleepy cluster of homes and rum shops surrounded by vast brown fields of rice awaiting harvest.

Less than a year ago, Omatat Ramlackhan recalls, his younger brother swallowed pesticide after a drunken argument with their father and died five days later. “I don’t know what got into him,” the 23-year-old said. “It just happened like that.”

It wasn’t the family’s first brush with suicide. His step-mother, Sharmilla Pooran, volunteers that her brother hanged himself and the man’s son tried to do the same but survived, with rope marks on his neck to remember it. She once contemplated killing herself.

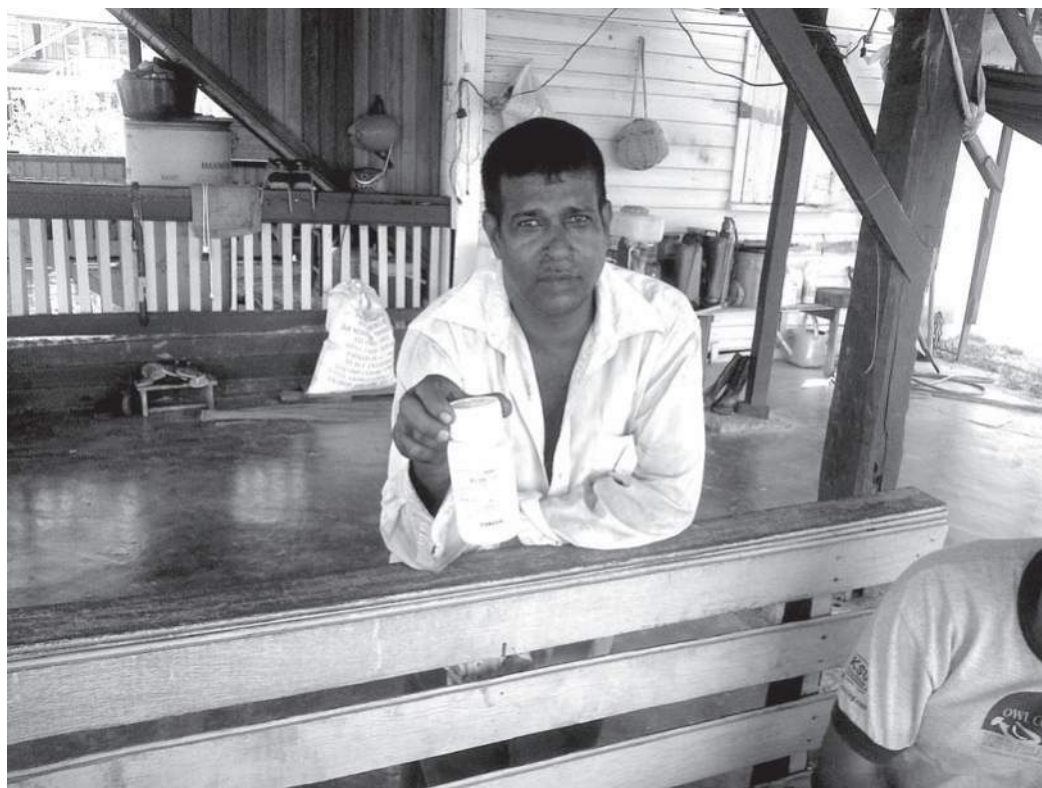
The fact that self-inflicted harm is such a presence in the lives of this family is not surprising given that they live in an area that Guyana’s Ministry of Health has designated the “suicide belt,” in a country that the World Health Organization says in a new report has the highest rate of suicide in the world.

Guyana, a largely rural country at the northeastern edge of South America, has a suicide rate four times the global average, ahead of North Korea, South Korea, and Sri Lanka. Neighboring Suriname was the only other country from the Americas in the top 10.

There seem to be a number of reasons that Guyana tops the list, including deep rural poverty, alcohol abuse and easy access to deadly pesticides. It apparently has nothing to do with the mass cult suicide and murder of more than 900 people in 1978 at Jonestown, the event that made the country notorious.

“It’s not that we are a population that has this native propensity for suicide or something like that,” said Supriya Singh-Bodden, founder of the non-governmental Guyana Foundation. “We have been trying to live off the stigma of Jonestown, which had nothing to do with Guyana as such. It was a cult that came into our country and left a very dark mark.”

Just before the WHO published its report last month, the founda-



AP

In this Monday, Oct. 6, 2014 photo, Vijai Ramlackhan holds a container of pesticide similar to the type his 17-year-old son used to commit suicide on their farm in the Berbice region of Guyana, a country that the World Health Organization says has the highest rate of suicide in the world.

tion cited rampant alcoholism as a major factor in its own study of the suicide phenomenon, which has been a subject of concern in Guyana for years. In 2010, the government announced it was training priests, teachers and police officers to help identify people at risk of killing themselves in Berbice, the remote farming region along the southeast border with Suriname where 17-year-old Ramdat Ramlackhan committed suicide after quarreling with his father, Vijai.

More recently, the government has sought to restrict access to deadly pesticides, though that is difficult in a country dependent on agriculture. In May, authorities announced a suicide-prevention hotline would be established and Health Minister Bheri Ramsarran said he would deploy additional nurses and social-service workers in response to the WHO report.

Some countries have had success with national strategies in bringing down the number of people who take their own lives, according to the WHO. The number of suicides rose rapidly in Japan in the late 1990s, but started to decrease in 2009 amid government prevention efforts and as discussion of the subject

became less taboo.

It has declined in China and India as a result of urbanization and efforts to control the most common means of suicide, said Dr. Alan Berman, a senior adviser to the American Association of Suicidology and a contributor to the WHO report.

“A certain proportion of suicides are rather impulsive and if you can restrict access to the means of suicide, whether it’s by pesticides, or by firearms or by bridge, you can thwart the behavior and give people an opportunity to change their minds,” Berman said.

The WHO estimates there are more than 800,000 suicides around the world per year. Statistics on the subject are unreliable because in some places the practice is stigmatized, or illegal.

The agency found Guyana, which has a population of about 800,000, had an age-adjusted rate of just over 44 per 100,000 people based on 2012 data. For males alone, it was nearly 71 per 100,000. In raw numbers, there are about 200 per year and 500 attempts, according to local health authorities. The U.S. overall rate was 12 per 100,000.

Most occur in Berbice, a flat, sun-baked expanse of farmlands

along the river that forms the border with Suriname, where similar social and economic conditions prevail and which was 6th on the WHO list, just ahead of Mozambique.

“Suicides tend to be higher in rural areas than urban areas,” Berman said. “If I’m living in rural Montana, or if I’m living in rural India or in rural Suriname the question then is if I need help for whatever is going on with me how am I going to get it?”

It is a touchy subject in Guyana. The country is divided politically and ethnically between the descendants of people brought from Africa as slaves and the descendants of people brought from India, both Hindus and Muslims, as indentured workers to replace them.

Berbice has many people of Hindus of Indian descent and, as a result, suicide is often portrayed in Guyana as a largely Hindu phenomenon. But Singh-Bodden of the Guyana Foundation said that may be because self-inflicted death among the Hindus of Berbice is more likely to be reported as such. Their study, for example, found little reporting of suicide among native Amerindians who live in the country’s rugged interior.

Focus

Hostage tale suggests IS wary of upsetting Turkey

By **BERZA SIMSEK** and **RAPHAEL SATTER**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SİLOPI, Turkey (AP)—Turkish truck driver Ozgur Simsek was sleeping off a 1,000-kilometer (620-mile) fuel run to the Qayara power station in Iraq, he said, when he heard banging on his vehicle's door.

"IS took over last night," the power plant's foreman shouted, referring to the Islamic State group. "Empty your trucks and run!"

Simsek rushed to unload his tanker's fuel, he said, but it was too late. A battered pickup bearing the black-and-white logo of the Islamic State group rolled across the tarmac. Qayara's security guards, who only moments before had been joking around with the truckers, turned on the men, donning black masks and brandishing weapons—taking all 32 Turkish men hostage.

For many foreigners, being caught by the group's fanatical fighters has meant months of uncertainty, torture and, in some cases, a gruesome death. For Simsek and his colleagues, captivity would last just over three weeks. Their trucks were confiscated, but no one was harmed and no ransom was paid, according to a narrative of the June 10 attack and its aftermath pieced together by The Associated Press from interviews with drivers and a company executive.

The episode paints a picture of a militant group unusually careful not to anger Turkey's government, and may offer insights into the mysterious release of 49 hostages from Turkey's consulate in Mosul, Iraq, just over a week ago.

"The Islamic State treated these hostages in the way they did because they don't want to provoke Ankara," said George Readings, of London-based risk consultancy Stirling Assynt. "If Turkey decided to crack down on the Islamic State's support, recruitment, fundraising and oil-selling networks that run through Turkey, that would have a major impact on Islamic State's ability to take and hold territory in Syria and Iraq."

Turkey has been a reluctant member of the coalition fighting the Islamic State group. Until the latest hostage release, Turkish leaders had said they would not consider joining the coalition. In recent days, under intense pressure from NATO allies, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has said he is mulling unspecified military cooperation.

Turkish officials reject the suggestion that they've tiptoed around the terror group, and appear to have recently made strides in intercepting foreign fighters and cracking down

on oil smuggling. When asked whether Turkey is ambivalent toward the Islamic State militants, an adviser to the Turkish prime minister told AP: "Absolutely no."

"We as a country have been the subject of terrorist activities

for the past 30 years," Cemalettin Hasimi said. "We know what it means."

Whatever the Turkish position, the Islamic State group's actions seem to reflect a certain pragmatism regarding Turkey.

For one thing, it's not clear whether the Turkish truckers were meant to have been captured. Vehbi Demir, one of the few truckers who spoke Arabic, said the atmosphere at a safe house where the Islamic State militants took some of them that morning was one of confusion and panic. He said he overheard a conversation between the kidnappers' leader, an Iraqi going by the name of Abu Abdullah, and his superiors. Demir said Abu Abdullah's voice went flat after informing them that he had kidnapped a bunch of Turks.

"It seems they weren't happy about it," Demir said.

For a while, two groups of truckers were kept separately—some at the safe house, the others at the power plant—but four days after the kidnapping the truckers and their vehicles were driven, under guard, to a U.S.-built airfield between Mosul and Qayara.

There, they were parked in a semi-enclosed engineering bay surrounded by four-meter-high concrete walls. The place was hot, dusty and crawling with scorpions, but despite the uncomfortable conditions the Turks said they were treated well.

The guard was relaxed. Drivers kept the keys to their trucks and could occasionally retreat to their air-conditioned cabs to watch satellite television and even use the batteries to recharge smartphones, which a few had kept hidden from their captors.

Food deliveries were irregular but included bread, cucumbers, watermelon and meat, which the truckers cooked with camping cylinders and bits of wood. Sometimes their Islamic State guards brought so much

to eat that the truckers had to watch their leftover chicken and tomatoes wilt in the

50-degree-Celsius (120 F) heat.

Although the militants forbade the truckers to play "sinful" music from their cabs, the captives were largely left to their own devices. They were even allowed to smoke—an unusual concession for the Islamic State group, which has outlawed smoking and publicly flogs violators.

Video shot from inside their makeshift prison shows a group of truckers watching television together on a carpets and mattresses laid out on the floor. They all smile for the camera.

Turkish driver Serdar Bayrak described his ordeal to the AP in his top-floor apartment in Cizre, an arid and unsettled transit town in Turkey across from the Syrian border. After a terrifying capture in which friendly guards "turned into monsters in five minutes," he said, it took less than a week for him to feel like "we were guests there."

The truckers believed that their Islamic State captors "would take care of Turkey's citizens in the best way possible and would not harm them in any way," he said. "They wanted their relationship to last with Turkey."

It isn't clear why the Islamic State group kept its Turkish captives for so long or why it released them when it did. Half-hearted ransom negotiations had gone nowhere, according to Mehmet Kizil, the CEO of Kizil Lojistik, which owned many of the captured tankers.

Kizil said Abu Abdullah initially phoned demanding a \$5 million ransom—which Kizil agreed to—and then a \$10 million ransom—which Kizil also said he would pay—before refusing to take his calls. The truckers described the negotiations as a farce, saying Abu Abdullah rarely even bothered to keep his phone on.

"It was a tactic to gain time," Bayrak said.

The truckers were released on July 4 after a night at an Islamic State base near the airport. Bayrak described the experience as frightening, saying he witnessed children as young as 8 or 9 holding weapons and encountered four suicide bombers with explosive vests getting ready to leave to target Iraqi forces.

That morning, a man the truckers knew as Sheikh Musa bid the 32 captives farewell, apologizing for having kept them hostage and insisting that no ransom had been paid.

Video covertly shot by one of the truckers shows his worn but happy-looking comrades being carried in pickup trucks under a giant Islamic State flag later that day. The men were eventually dropped at the side of the road and had to walk the rest of the way in the desert to Makhmour, near the Kurdish capital of Irbil. From there, a Turkish plane flew them home.

The truckers' low-key homecoming was in contrast to the rapturous welcome afforded to the 49 Turkish consulate workers. In both cases, however, the reason behind the release seems linked to maintaining the status quo with Turkey.

"Turks are our brothers," Simsek recalled one militant telling him just before he was released.

Readings said the release of both sets of hostages "reflects the fact that it's not in Islamic State's interests right now to enter into confrontation with Turkey."

Simsek said that while he is pleased that the consular workers were released, he remains angry at the theft of the trucks, which had left him and others saddled with tens of thousands of dollars of debt.

"We know that their loss will be compensated," Simsek said of the consular staff. "The only ones who will end up losing out are us."

In this photo taken Friday, Sept. 26, 2014, Truck driver Ozgur Simsek listens during an interview at his home in Silopi, Turkey.



Good Housekeeping

Choose the right flooring for rooms that get wet

Flooring is a foundational facet of any home project. But when the room you're upgrading is prone to spills and splashes and the chance of leaks or flooding, carpet isn't an ideal choice. Here are some options for moisture-prone areas:

TILE: This is a durable option, with material choices ranging from ceramic to natural stone. However, some tiles must be sealed to prevent water penetration, so some types may not work well in moisture-prone area.

If you choose tile flooring, keep grout lines tight, especially in a bathroom. Grout, even

when sealed, will eventually let moisture through. Look for grouts that contain additives to reduce moisture intrusion.

Some specific tile materials:

CERAMIC: Waterproof, durable and available in many colors, sizes and styles, ceramic flooring is easy to clean. In rooms that get wet, such as the kitchen or bathroom, choose textured tiles for more secure footing. Porcelain is an extra-durable form of ceramic tile.

STONE: Options include marble, limestone, travertine, sandstone, slate and granite. Each stone type features various

degrees of porosity, and most should be sealed. Stone comes in four absorption levels: non-vitreous, semi-vitreous, vitreous and impervious. Non-vitreous stone, which has the highest absorption level, isn't suitable for water- or moisture-prone rooms.

VINYL: If you're looking for an easy-care and affordable option, consider vinyl. Sheet vinyl has the benefit of few, if any, seams that can let moisture through. Vinyl also has its high-end side, which can make it a practical alternative to hardwood or stone in high-traffic rooms. Vinyl planks and what's called

"luxury vinyl tile" can be made to mimic the look of wood or stone.

High-quality vinyl brands can feature mold and mildew inhibitors and waterproof guarantees rather than water-resistant claims.

CONCRETE: A staple for basements and garages, concrete is worth considering for a bathroom or kitchen. Concrete staining, stamping and other decorative techniques allow this sturdy material to stand alone decoratively.

WOOD: Wood can work in a kitchen, especially if it's engineered hardwood flooring (sometimes called laminate

hardwood flooring), which has a sturdier, more water-resistant plywood base, a hardwood veneer and usually costs more than laminate.

LAMINATE: Laminate is a layered flooring type featuring wood fiber. It's relatively easy to install and is affordable, compared to hardwood or engineered wood. However, it's

not recommended for full bathrooms or a basement that may experience flooding. If water penetrates, laminate can swell.

BAMBOO: Bamboo is a durable, relatively water-resistant option that can be an alternative to hardwood or laminate flooring. But like hardwood, it's not a great option for full baths or basements prone to water damage.

Wood floors and water don't mix

By SAMANTHA MAZZOTTA
KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Q: While I was away on a business trip, my roommate decided to buy a couple of floor plants and put the containers directly onto the hardwood floor with nothing under them. By the time I got back, a couple of waterings later, water had run out of the pots and across the floor. Now there are two big water rings where the base of each vase was, and water stains along the path that the leaking water flowed. Can these be fixed, or does my roommate need to pay for repairs?—Vivian in Cambridge, Mass.

A: If the standing water around the vases hasn't buckled the wood, you should be able to deal with the stains without too much effort.

Make sure the entire floor is dry, particularly where the vases stood. You may want to borrow a dehumidifier from a friend for a few days to encourage the drying process. In some cases where water damage is minor, the water marks may disappear or diminish dramatically once the wood has dried completely.

If once the wood has dried, a white water stain is still evident, then water likely stained the floor's finish. This is easier to deal with. Heat up a clothes iron (use a "no steam" setting and empty out all the water from the holding tank). Place a dry, lint-free white cloth over the stained area. Rub the iron over the cloth for two or three seconds, then lift the cloth away to check the spot.

Another method for white stains is to drench a super-fine steel wool pad with lemon oil, then gently rub the white marks with the pad to buff out the stain without scratching the finish.

However, if the stains are dark, then water likely penetrated through the finish and into the hardwood itself. This is more complex, particularly if your floor was installed in the past few years. Older hardwood floors seem to handle water staining and refinishing better. Newer floors not only don't handle water so well, but also have to be cleaned or repaired more carefully. Con-

tact a flooring professional if you're not sure.

To get to this type of stain you will need to sand away the finish—being careful not to sand the wood itself—and then try to lighten the stain. The most common recommendation is to carefully apply a 50-50 solution of water and bleach, or a professional wood bleach, directly to the stain using an old toothbrush. Use only a small amount (you may want to test it on one of the less-conspicuous stains), blot up any excess and let dry. Repeat until the color matches the rest of the wood again, then let it dry for a couple of days before gently sanding, applying wood stain (if necessary) to finish matching the surrounding floor, and refinishing the damaged spots.

As to who should pay for the repair, I'll leave that to you and the roommate to figure out. At the very least, this should be a lesson that water and wood floors don't mix.

COMFORT FOODS

Farmer's Fare Stew

There's something almost magical about shopping at a farmers' market. I think it's because all the abundant produce spilling out of the baskets and containers takes us back to our roots.

8 ounces lean beef stew, cut into bite-size pieces

2 cups diced raw potatoes
1 cup diced carrots
1 cup chopped celery
1/2 cup chopped onion
1 (10 3/4-ounce) can reduced-fat cream of mushroom soup
1 (2.5-ounce) jar sliced mushrooms, drained

1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley or 1 teaspoon dried parsley flakes

Preheat oven to 325 F. Spray an 8-by-8-inch baking dish with butter-flavored cooking spray. In prepared baking dish, combine meat, potatoes, carrots, celery and onion. Add soup, mushrooms and parsley. Mix well to combine. Cover and bake for 3 hours or until meat and vegetables are tender. Place baking dish on a wire rack and let set for 5 minutes. Divide into 4 servings. (*Hearst Communications, Inc.*)

In Celebration of Her New Life †Dolores Cruz Celis (Doris Bisco)

August 22, 1947– October 11, 2014

In Her New Life, She Now Joins:

Father : †Juan SP. Cruz
Mother : †Magdalena T. Cruz
Father in-law : †Francisco R. Celis
Mother in-law : †Francisca S. Celis

Sisters, Brothers, and In-laws : †Magdalena/Vicente Lizama, †Carmen A. Cruz, †Juana/Pedro Calvo, †Ignacio/Antonia Cruz, †Ignacio/Rufina Ada

Nephews : †Herman S. Cruz, †Anthony C. Calvo
Grandchildren : †Joshua Ike N. Celis, †Jonathan Melil C. Ngirausui, †Natalie Carmen C. Ngirausui

Her Memories Will Forever Live in the Hearts of her:

Husband: Ignacio Sablan Celis

Children and Spouse:

Clarinda/Melil Ngirausui
Frank C. Celis

Brother: Juan T. Cruz

Grand daughters & Family: Camielle S. Celis/Collin Duenas
Nicolette Nadine C. Ngirausui
Natasha C. Ngirausui

Brother and Sister in laws: Consuelo C. Perez (†Juan Perez)

Maria T. Pangelinan (†Pedro Pangelinan)
Magdalena C. Sutton (†William Sutton)
Rita C. and Donald Harms
David S. and Mathilde Celis
Ana C. Celis (†Daniel S. Celis)

Mass of Intentions are being celebrated each evening at 6:00pm at Santa Soledad Church in Kagman.

Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday, October 21, 2014. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:30am to OL Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Responso Service will be at 8:00am followed by Holy Rosary at 8:30am.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00am. Interment Services will be held at the CNMI Veteran's Cemetery in Marpi, Saipan where she will be at a peaceful rest.

Please join us in prayers

Ignacio Sablan Celis, Children and Families

Life & Style

Answering the 'Birdman' signal, Keaton soars again

NEW YORK (AP)—When Michael Keaton met Barack Obama shortly before Obama would become president, the then-senator had a question for the actor.

"Why don't you make more movies?"

It's a quandary that has long bedeviled moviegoers just as it has, so it seems, heads of state. Why did the roundly beloved Keaton—a manic comic actor, an intense live wire, a real-deal movie star—become such an infrequent presence on the big screen?

Even at the height of Keaton's stardom in the 1980s and '90s, he was famously picky, usually doing a movie a year and turning down about as many hits ("Splash," "JFK," among them) as he said yes to. But after a handful of flops in the late '90s and early 2000s, Keaton all but disappeared from movies.

"I did turn a lot of things down. But a lot of the things I turned down, you would have turned down," said Keaton in a recent interview. "It was because I was bored. I was bored with what I would do. Maybe it just didn't interest me for a while, I don't know."

But Keaton's revival, begun with a handful of supporting roles, reaches a blistering, wildly meta crescendo in Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu's "Birdman or The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance." In it, Keaton stars as a washed-up, middle-aged actor, Riggan Thomson, trying to mount a serious play on Broadway based on a Raymond Carver story when all his fans want is for him to make a fourth "Birdman" film—a superhero identity that haunts him.

The reference to Keaton's "Batman" days is unmistakable, but "Birdman"—shot in long, flowing takes that capture the chaotic swirl of backstage life and a theater full of people striving for their own sense of self-importance—only plays a little with Keaton's own persona. It's a gonzo portrait of an actor's out-of-control psychoses that appears certain to land the 63-year-old's first Oscar nomination.

Keaton's comeback is the result, he says, of sharpening his focus.

"I turned the dial up," says Keaton. "I don't know if I got re-interested or I settled a lot of other things in my life. I really don't know. I just thought: 'I'm going to dial the scope in a little more,' like on a rifle. ...

It's amazing when you focus on the things you want and keep your eye on the ball. You start to create it or something."

His hair trim and gray, Keaton is intense in person and initially standoffish. He doesn't look up from his phone entering a Manhattan hotel room. At the mention that many have overdone comparisons of him to his "Birdman" character, he grows tense: "If I were you, I'd take a higher road," he says.

Keaton has in many ways spent his career avoiding the typecast fate of Riggan. The Pittsburgh-native, Catholic-raised, youngest of seven began as stand-up. After his breakthrough in 1982's "Night Shift," he deliberately sought to avoid what he calls "glib young man" roles. When development on a third "Batman" film sought to lighten Tim Burton's universe, he bailed.

"He's a very self-assured guy. He doesn't need to be validated," says Inarritu ("Amores Perros," "Babel"). "In order to play a role like this and be naked—spiritually, intellectually, physically—you have to have a lot of self-assurance."

Keaton, who has a 31-year-old son from his marriage to Caroline McWilliams, spends much of his time on his ranch in Montana, fishing and hunting.

"People can say 'Oh, he hasn't been around because nobody's called,'" says Inarritu. "No, it's because he has a life. He has a ranch, he has a family."

Keaton gave Inarritu (whom Keaton calls "the mad Mexican") the kind of "Beetlejuice"-level commitment he's known for. Keaton didn't even question shooting a scene in which Riggan gets locked out of the theater during opening night, forcing him to stomp through Times Square in his tighty-whities. The actor says his only thought was "I wonder what type of underwear I'll wear."

Keaton pegs Adam McKay's white-collar crime comedy "The Other Guys" (2010) as the start to his return, calling it "the first jab" that proved he "could still hit." He's also played a Steve Jobs-like CEO in "RoboCop" and appeared in the HBO comedy "Clear History." Next, he'll star in Tom McCarthy's Catholic scandal drama "Spotlight."

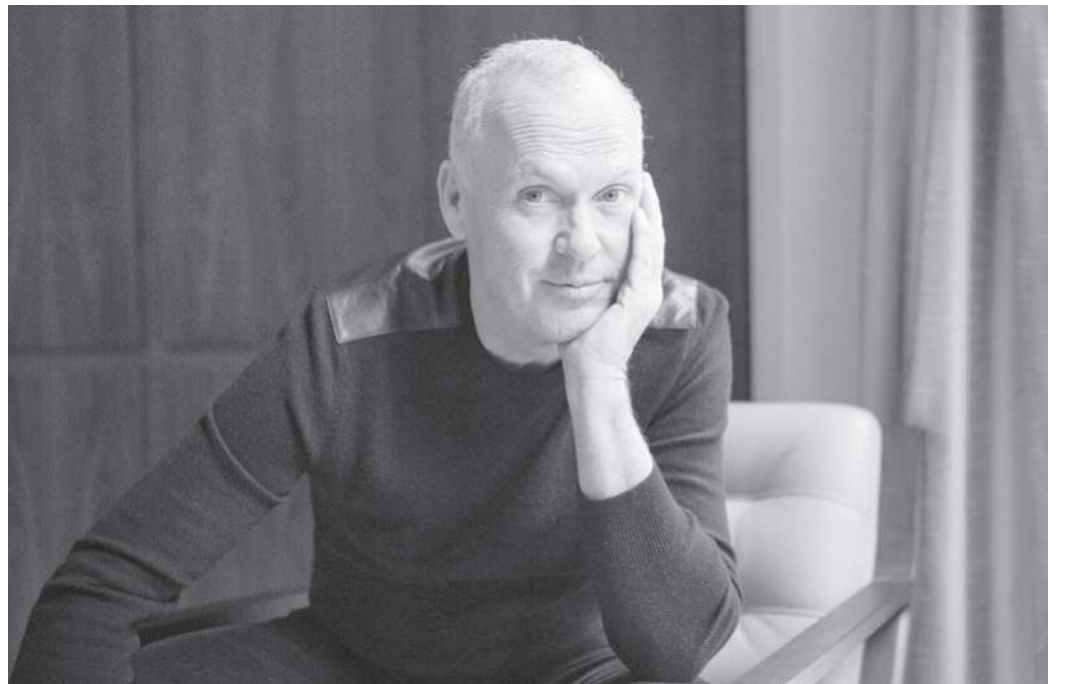
Will he keep up the pace?

"I honestly don't know," says Keaton. "I'm sure I'll do

something that won't work, that will be stupid and people will point their fingers and say I'm a dope. And I'll go to the next one and maybe they won't."

AP

In this Oct. 11, 2014 photo, actor Michael Keaton poses for a portrait in promotion of his upcoming role in the film "Birdman or The Unexpected Virtue of Innocence" in New York.



In Celebration of Her New Life

† *Carmen Camacho Wesley Hamilton*

August 06, 1925 – October 11, 2014

In Her New Life, She Now Joins Her:

Husband: †Wilburn Chandler Hamilton

Son: † Paul Chandler W. Hamilton

Parents †Jose Gumataotao Wesley & †Maria Palacios Camacho

Brothers, Sisters and in-laws : †Pedro C. Wesley, †Francisca W./†Jesus A. Torres
†Teodicio C. Wesley, † Nieves W./†Jesus D. Muna

Her Memories Will Forever Live in the Hearts of Her Children and Family:

† **Paul Chandler W. & Thelma M. Hamilton** (Myra Pauline Hamilton / Jeffrey Heston – Joshua, Chad, Sterling, Zachary, Jessica), Retta Sue Hamilton & Jesse Torres, Dora Mae Hamilton (Dexter, Juan Jr.), Paula Jane Hamilton (Rica, Renae (Adella Shavonne), Juan II, Reian, Paris), Joanne Marie Hamilton & Peter Aldan (Brittney, Jacob, Tiana, Ava)

Michelle Hamilton / Jeffrey Tomokane (Brandon, Abbigele, Ethan), Anthony Chandler Hamilton, John Chandler Hamilton & Charing Reyes (Jeremiah Paul, Madision Auria), Matthew Chandler Hamilton
Nadine H. & Henry I. Sablan (Rico Chandler Hamilton & Jade Sablan- (Rylan Chandler Hamilton, Aider Sawada, Ariana Sawada), Barbara Jeanne H. Sablan, Diana Christine H. Sablan, Sharlene Denise S. & William Sakisat (Robert William, Wesley Andrew, Gregory Kachuma, Amanda Marie &

Andrew Wilkes), Loanalyn Rose Sablan (Laealdrie)

Betty Jane H. & Michael S. Johnson (Katy Marie, Sarah Elizabeth, Andrew Scott)

Ruby Jean H. & Rick Northen (Opal Leean, Ashley Raine)

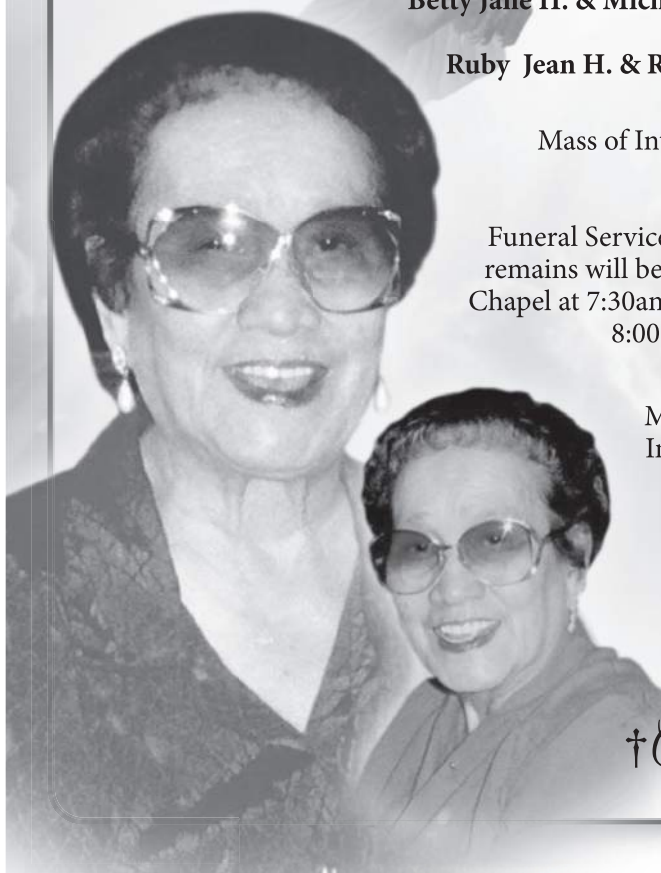
Mass of Intentions are being celebrated each morning at
Kristo Rai Church at 6:00am.

Funeral Services will be held on Monday, October 20, 2014. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:30am to Kristo Rai Church. Responso Service will be at 8:00am followed by Holy Rosary at 8:30am.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00am. Interment Services will be held at the CNMI Veteran's Cemetery in Marpi, Saipan where she will be at a peaceful rest.

Please join us in prayers

Children and family of the late
† *Wilburn Chandler Hamilton & Carmen Camacho Wesley Hamilton*



2 young marrieds make NBC's new sitcom 'Marry Me'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—After dating Jake for six long years, Annie figured he would pop the question during their romantic island getaway.

He didn't, and when they return home, Annie throws a comic hissy-fit over her ringless state—at the very moment Jake was poised to put a ring on her finger.

Thus begins "Marry Me," a new NBC sitcom starring Casey Wilson as the lovable but dizzy Annie and Ken Marino as her level-headed if hopelessly smitten boyfriend Jake.

Premiering Tuesday at 9 p.m. EDT, "Marry Me" reunites Wilson with creator-executive producer David Caspe, in whose former series, "Happy Endings," Wilson played a prominent role.

But in truth, Wilson and Caspe had never stopped being an item since "Happy Endings"



In this image released by NBC, Casey Wilson, right, and Ken Marino appear in a scene from the comedy series "Marry Me," premiering Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2014 at 9 p.m. ET on NBC.

left the air in spring 2013 after three seasons. Back then, they were dating. In May, they tied

the knot.

Now Caspe gets to draw on domestic life with his vivacious

leading lady while appointing Marino ("Eastbound & Down" and "Childrens Hospital") as his onscreen stand-in.

"Annie's character is very much inspired by Casey," says Caspe (the "e" is silent), "and some of the dynamic between her and Ken's character is the same as our dynamic."

That becomes clear during a rollicking lunch as they fete a reporter at Hollywood's Paramount Pictures studios, where "Marry Me" is produced.

Over salad in the posh Paramount dining room, Caspe recalls that he first met Wilson, then best known as a "Saturday Night Live" alum, when, late in the "Happy Endings" audition grind, she read for the role of Penny, one of that show's gang of six Chicago chums.

"There were a couple of actresses who were better than her for the part," jokes Caspe. "But I wanted to make love to her, and I thought the best way to do that was to give her the part."

They remained just friends during the first season of "Happy Endings," opting for discretion. Then they ramped up to dating secretly.

"Then we started dating for real," Caspe says. "And the cast was supercool about it. Then the show got canceled."

Soon Caspe was developing a new show.

"It was perfect for Casey," he says, "and luckily she want-

ed to do it."

The fact that "Marry Me" was inspired by real life gave it extra appeal—or so Caspe hoped.

"When I went from network to network to pitch it, I would say one of the great things about this show is that it's going to mimic my life, since I'm about to propose to my girlfriend. I used that as a sales tool. So network presidents and development executives and assistants knew we going to be engaged before Casey knew."

"The entire TOWN knew before I did," she says, rolling her eyes.

Not that she hadn't made such wishes known.

"I had mentioned in a friendly, fun fashion, that I'd LOVE to get engaged by the end of the summer. And by 'end of summer' I meant Sept. 1."

By late spring of 2013, she knew Caspe was up to something.

"He's like, 'I think we should stay home in three months and watch TV.' If I said something like, 'I'm thinking of having dinner with a friend,' he would say, 'But not on Aug. 30—right?'"

"I guess I doth protested too much," he admits.

So how did it go on Aug. 30?

"I got her family together with a caterer to cook dinner for all of us, and had everybody hidden in the other room," a strategy that parallels the "Marry Me"

scene. "But I failed to plan what I was going to say. So I stumbled through what can only be described as a series of clichés. Then I kissed her and she said yes. Then, deciding I hadn't said enough, I got back down on my knee and said a little more. I did not shine."

"It was very beautiful," insists Wilson. "It worked very well."

Fast forward to the whirl of events awaiting the couple this past May.

"The show got picked up on a Thursday," Caspe recalls. "Then I went to my bachelor party in Vegas. That Sunday, I flew to New York for the (TV network) upfronts. Our wedding was the next weekend in California. Then we flew to our honeymoon for two weeks. Then we came back, and the very next day I started the writers room."

The "Marry Me" writers room, a golf cart-ride away on the Paramount lot, was soon outfitted with the necessary couches, sprawling whiteboards for outlining future episodes, dart board and remote-controlled fart machine. With his team, Caspe set to work coming up with funny stuff for Annie and Jake to say and do.

"To have such strong comedians in the lead roles makes my job a lot easier," Caspe says. "There's no one I would rather write for than Casey. And Ken is so funny—and a wonderful lovemaker!"

In Loving Memory of



†DAVID EDWARD PANGELINAN

Better known as "Tun David"

Born to life on July 16, 1939 and was called to his eternal rest on October 10, 2014 at the age of 75.

His Memories Will Forever Live In The Hearts of His:

First Wife: Maria V. Pangelinan
Wife: Cora B. Pangelinan

Children, Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren:

Steven Pangelinan & Gina Cabrera (Ashley, Steven Jr.)
Jane & Dionicio Lizama (Janel/Christopher [Bethany, Brooke, Britney, Brianna]; Jennifer [Damien Edward] Jackelyn, David, Dionicio Jr., Antonia)
Maryann & Tony Morrison
Jamilie Nora Pangelinan

Mass of Intentions and Holy Rosary is being offered at the following churches.

Santa Soledad Church: Mass 6:00pm followed by Holy Rosary.
Mt. Carmel Cathedral: Holy Rosary 5:00am followed by Mass at 6:00am.

On Saturday, October 18, 2014 our beloved †David's remains will be escorted from CHCC Chapel at 7:30am to Mount Carmel Cathedral. Last respects will be held from 8:30am to 10:30am. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am followed immediately by Interment Service at the Mt. Carmel Cemetery where he will be at a peaceful rest.

Your thoughts, prayers, and presence are greatly appreciated.

From the Family

In Celebration of His New Life

†Dewayne Patrick Oronigo Castro

Also known as "Capt. Dewayne/Deng"
Was born on March 18, 1971 and was called to his eternal home on October 08, 2014 at the age of 43.

In His New Life, Dewayne Now Joins His:

Mother: †Vicenta Oronigo Eagleson
Nephew: †Byron Jr. Farnsworth Castro

The Love and Blessings of His Memories Will Forever Live in the Hearts of His:

Wife: Misato Aoki Castro
Son: Sean Matthew Aoki Castro
Father: Ricardo P. Castro
Stepmother: Lorenza P. Castro
Stepfather: Terry Eagleson

Mother In-Law: Sachiko Aoki
Father In-Law: Seimi Aoki
Brother In-Law: Takayuki Aoki

Brothers, Sisters and Spouses:

Ronald Jose Oronigo & child
Richard O. & Vilma Castro and children
Saralena C. & Eusebio Bonifacio and children
Corrine E. & †Dean Kapileo and children
Jesse A. & Deveyann C. Pua and children
Zenita P. Castro and children
Byron P. Castro & Ana Marie F. Teregeyo and children
Darrel P. Castro & Paula I. Reyes and child

He will be missed by numerous uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Mass of Intentions are being celebrated each evening at 6:00PM at Santa Remedios Church, Tanapag.

Funeral Service will be held on Thursday, October 16, 2014. His remains will be escorted from the CHC Chapel at 7:30AM to Santa Remedios Church followed by Responso Services and Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00AM followed immediately by Interment Services at the Tanapag Cemetery where he will be at a peaceful rest.

Please join us in prayers
Misato/Sean A. Castro & Family
Ricardo P. & Lorenza P. Castro & Family

Katie Holmes reprising Jackie O role in miniseries

NEW YORK (AP)—Katie Holmes will once again play Jackie Kennedy Onassis in a TV miniseries.

The actress has signed on to star in “The Kennedys-After Camelot,” a follow-up to “The Kennedys” miniseries for ReelzChannel.

It’s based on a book by Randy Taraborrelli.

The four-hour miniseries will begin production next year and is slated to air in 2016.

Thirty-five-year-old Holmes will executive produce and also direct one episode.

John Cassar, who directed

“The Kennedys,” will direct the other three episodes.

“The Kennedys” was originally made to air on History, but was dropped because the network said it didn’t fit its brand. The miniseries was later picked up by ReelzChannel and scored record ratings for the network when it aired in 2011.

It starred Greg Kinnear as John F. Kennedy and Holmes as the first lady. Kinnear was nominated for an Emmy and SAG Award for his portrayal. Barry Pepper, who played Bobby Kennedy, won the Emmy Award for outstanding lead actor in a miniseries or movie.



In this publicity image released by ReelzChannel, Katie Holmes portrays Jacqueline Kennedy in a scene from the eight-part movie, “The Kennedys,” on cable’s ReelzChannel network.

Chris Brown leads nominees for Soul Train Awards with 7

NEW YORK (AP)—Chris Brown is the top nominee for the Soul Train Awards.

The R&B singer racked up seven nominations, including best R&B/soul male artist and song of the year for “Loyal.” Beyonce earned six nominations and Pharrell Williams followed with five.

Williams and Beyonce will be competing against each other for album of the year, along with John Legend, Drake, Janelle Monae and Michael Jackson.

Hosted by Wendy Williams, the Soul Train Awards will be presented on Nov. 7 in Las Vegas. The awards will air on Nov. 30 on Centric and BET.

Iggy Azalea top nominee at American Music Awards

NEW YORK (AP)—Austrian rapper Iggy Azalea is the lead nominee at the American Music Awards.

Dick clark productions announced Monday that the “Fancy” performer is up for six awards at the Nov. 23 event at Nokia Theatre L.A. Live. Azalea’s nominations include artist, new artist and single of the year for her No.1 smash “Fancy.”

John Legend, Katy Perry and Pharrell Williams have

five nominations each, while Lorde is up for four honors at the fan-voted show. Those acts are all nominated for artist of the year, competing with Beyonce, Luke Bryan, Eminem, Imagine Dragons and One Direction. The 10 nominees will downsize to five after calculating fan votes received through Nov. 13.

“Boom Clap” singer Charli XCX will perform at the 2014 AMAs, to air live on ABC.

SpiderMan may swing over Beijing in new theme park

BEIJING (AP)—Spider-Man could soon swing over Beijing, chasing Optimus Prime and despicable minions through a \$3.3 billion Universal theme park aimed at capitalizing on China’s rising middle class and growing demand for all things animated.

China has been a major booster of animated movies such as “Transformers: Age of Extinction”—which was partly filmed in China—and “The Amazing Spider-Man 2.” Brand is becoming more important to Chinese market as its middle class pours cash into entertainment, and malls and parks across China are installing animation and cartoon-themed attractions to woo visitors, says global architecture firm AECOM. The Chinese film industry is set to overtake the U.S. box office in the next three years, leading to more demand for Western entertainment, said Gary Goddard, founder of entertainment design firm Goddard Group in North Hollywood, California.

The rising middle and up-

per classes “all have money to spend and they want to spend time together with their families,” he said.

The 1,000-acre Beijing park will include attractions from other Universal parks, rides that reflect China’s cultural heritage, a Universal CityWalk entertainment zone and a Universal-themed resort hotel. It will be the third Universal park in Asia, joining others in Singapore and Osaka, Japan.

Comcast NBCUniversal is building the property with four Chinese state-owned partners. An opening date wasn’t announced.

China is home to 11 of the top 20 amusement parks in Asia with about 166 million visits in 2013. Revenue is expected to total nearly \$3 billion this year, estimates research firm IBIS-World. There are 59 more parks in the pipeline, and by 2020, theme park attendance in China could overtake the U.S. market’s 220 million visits last year, according to AECOM. As U.S.

and European amusement parks see flatter or declining attendance, theme park companies are betting on China to drive expansion.

Hong Kong Disneyland said in February that it was profitable for the second year in a row, partly due to new attractions that drew more visitors from the mainland. It plans to build a third hotel and new ride based on the “Iron Man” movie franchise which is wildly popular in mainland China. The Walt Disney Co.’s \$5.5 billion Shanghai Disneyland resort is slated to open next year. It will take an “East-meets-West” approach with attractions like the Garden of the Twelve Friends with murals of the 12 signs of the Chinese zodiac depicted by popular Disney characters.

Dreamworks Animation SKG Inc. is building a \$2.4 billion complex with Chinese partners in Shanghai, scheduled to open in 2017. It will feature a 500-seat IMAX cinema with

international film festivals and red carpet events in mind, bars, restaurants and performance venues, the companies said. It will also showcase a “Dream Avenue” theater district modeled on London’s West End and New York City’s Broadway.

In June, Six Flags Entertainment Corp. announced plans to build six parks in China over the next decade.

Developers will increasingly use international brands in theme parks, AECOM analysts Chris Yoshii and Beth Chang said in a 2013 leisure report. “We’re already seeing major (intellectual property) groups active in the market in Asia: Fox, Paramount, Warner Bros. and Dreamworks all very much so,” they wrote. Some of the new parks also are trying to promote Chinese culture, stories and themes.

“Unlike the U.S. where there was a push to create a standard, in Asia there’s a lot of variety and experimentation,” they added.

Woman who abuses boyfriend can’t figure out how to stop

DEAR ABBY: I think I have an abuse problem. I have been with my boyfriend for a year, and already I feel like he is fed up with me. I don’t want to lose him.

When I was younger, my father used to abuse me. It was years ago, but I feel like I might have gotten that trait from him. In addition, I have a tendency to smack my boyfriend on the arm when he’s verbally abusing me. I just want it to stop.

I love this man and I feel terrible after I do it. I keep telling him I’m sorry and that I have the worst tendency to act on impulse. Please tell me how to stop because I CANNOT lose him. Any suggestions?

SORRY IN KANSAS CITY, MO.

DEAR SORRY: If you want your relationship to improve, you must realize it will take effort not only on your part but also your boyfriend’s. Neither of you handles anger or frustration appropriately. He shouldn’t verbally abuse you if something bothers him. And you need to find other ways than hitting him to make him stop.

Couples counseling could help you communicate more effectively with each other. Many licensed mental health professionals offer it. Please don’t wait.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: Our 5-year-old daughter, “Maya,” was diagnosed with a severe peanut and tree nut allergy before she was 2. My parents have completely overhauled their house and have gone nut-free. My husband’s parents, on the other hand, refuse to coop-

erate with Maya’s diet restrictions when she visits.

I have tried talking to them, which in turn upsets my husband. He keeps making excuses for them, even though he demanded the school become nut-free to accommodate her.

We were scheduled to go to their house for an early Thanksgiving when they revealed that the house still wasn’t safe for Maya to come to. My husband’s solution was to go there for the weekend and leave us behind.

How can I get my in-laws to understand, and my husband to stand up for his daughter and me?

LOOKING OUT FOR MAYA

DEAR LOOKING OUT FOR MAYA: You can’t. Your husband is still under his parents’ thumb. While he may love his parents, his first responsibility is to you and his children. Until he finds his backbone and realizes that, he will remain at his parents’ beck and call. I’m glad you’re looking out for your daughter because her father doesn’t appear to be emotionally equipped to do it.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I can no longer go to funeral visitations. I have buried my parents, two sisters, four brothers and nine nieces and nephews. The number of loved ones I have lost, and the visitations and funerals I have had to attend, have been overwhelming. I can’t face it anymore.

How do you suggest I avoid them? I am running out of excuses, and I’m tired of being a no-show.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



HATES FUNERALS IN ILLINOIS

DEAR HATES FUNERALS: People deal with loss in different ways, and you don’t have to apologize for feeling the way you do. Stop making excuses and start telling the truth.

When you are notified about a death, offer your condolences, a donation, flowers, and explain that after 17 deaths in your family, you no longer attend funerals because it has become too much for you. That way, no one will think you don’t care or wonder why you didn’t show up.

■■■

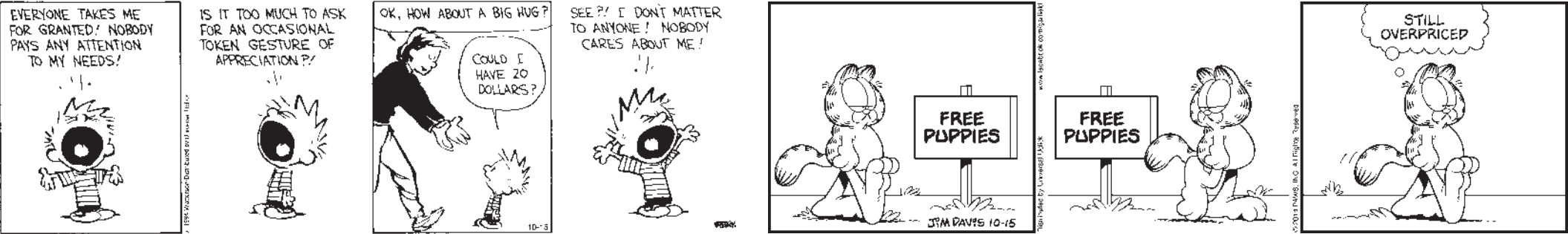
Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson Garfield®

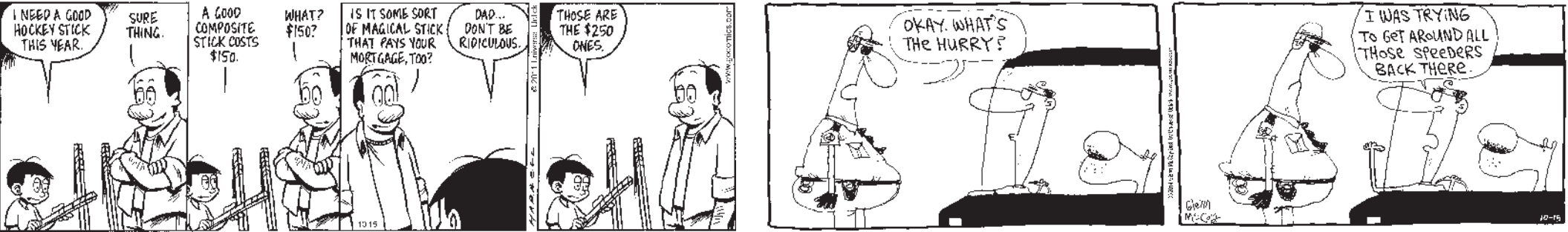
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Aries 4 Netflix rental 7 Destiny 8 Irrefutable evidence 10 Trip around the world? 11 — Stables (venue for Hercules) 13 Meteorologists' workplace 16 Allow 17 React to reveille 18 Late British comic Mayall 19 Black-birds 20 — E. Coyote 21 Michael's "Little House ..." co-star

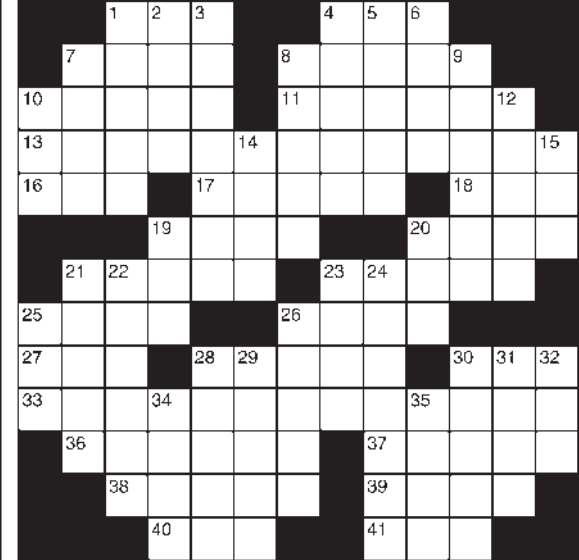
23 Gives a darn 25 Harbor 26 Skeletal 27 Upper limb 28 Word processor option 30 Donkey 33 Garment for Fonzie 36 Skillful 37 Comedian 38 Eighth letter 39 Religious image (Var.) 40 Reaction to fire-works

41 Lair DOWN 1 Moroco's capital 2 Not procrastinating 3 Gas formed by decomposition 4 Defeats decisively 5 Popularity 6 Active one 7 Release 8 Helen's abductor 9 Old-style spirit

10 Hooter 12 Symbols of hardness 14 "— go brag!" 15 Guitar's kin 19 Illustrations 20 Twisted "M*A*S*H" locale 22 Fleet 23 Pt. of speech 24 Digestive aid 25 Chum 26 Product of one's labor? 28 Selfie, e.g. 29 Robert of the Clinton Cabinet 30 Ohio city 31 Wit-nessed 32 Pigpen 34 Small band 35 Wedding staple

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterdays answer 10-15



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Vanessa Marcil, 46; Emeril Lagasse, 55; Sarah Ferguson, 55; Penny Marshall, 71.

Happy Birthday: Being a self-starter will help you get ahead. Sensitive matters must not cloud your vision or your progressive attitude. Motivation and hard work will help you avoid meddling from someone threatened by your success. Simplicity will be vital to getting ahead. Offering the most for the least will keep you in the race. Step up and do more. Your numbers are 7, 10, 22, 25, 31, 39, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Expect an old friend to reconnect with you. Problems will develop at home, leaving you in a situation that may require you to move. Focus on getting along with partners, not letting emotions bubble up until you are faced with a dilemma. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Stick close to home. Uncertainty when dealing with authority figures, institutions or government agencies can be expected. Keep things in perspective. Overreacting will set you back instead of getting you ahead. Take care of pressing matters swiftly. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put your thoughts into motion. Don't let emotional interference cloud your vision or stop you from following through. You may not feel compelled to be completely honest with someone putting up a fuss. Mix business with pleasure. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Mood swings are in the forecast, but if you channel your energy wisely and set your sights on accomplishment, you will avoid taking

a destructive course in an irreversible and potentially money-draining direction. Don't make personal changes. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Temptation can be a good thing if you see it as an opportunity tied in with a little intrigue and a positive challenge. Anything worthwhile takes hard work, dedication and some sacrifice. Move forward quickly. Romance is highlighted and will bring about personal change. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Generosity may be a fine quality to have, but it can also lead you to the poorhouse. Protect what you have and refuse to let anyone give away something that belongs to you. Disagreements are likely if someone isn't being honest. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep emotions in check and focus on spending quality time with someone who appreciates you. A change of heart must not be taken as a negative, but rather as a chance to be free-spirited and try new things. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Put yourself first and don't feel guilty. A vacation or time to follow through with a project you've wanted to tackle will ease your stress and bring you a sense of satisfaction. Stay away from anyone who is displaying instability. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Money will slip through your fingers. Don't spend, lend or borrow money or possessions. Concentrate on the positive changes you can make at home that will help you cut corners. Don't pay for others. Make an impres-

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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tion by doing, not donating. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Impulse is the enemy. Stick with what and whom you know and trust. You may feel the urge to travel or to share your thoughts, but both will lead to unsatisfactory results. Stick close to home. ***

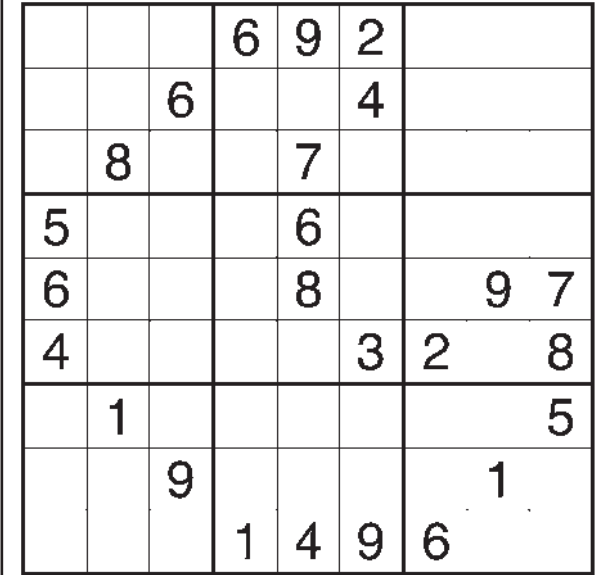
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Change is recommended, especially if it will help you bring in more cash or secure a position you already have. Wheeling and dealing will lead to a choice. Before you move forward, question your motives and refrain from being impulsive. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Learn from your interactions with children or creative individuals who can offer a different slant to a situation you face. Greater stability can be yours if you make an unexpected move. A partnership is due for an overhaul and a redistribution of power. *****

Birthday Baby: You are insightful, pleasant and generous. You are unique and adaptable. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](http://twitter.com/eugenialast).

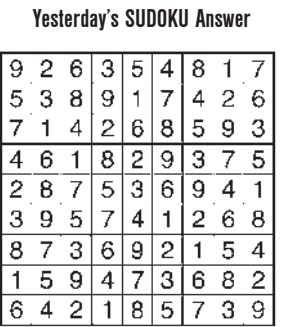
SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/15 ©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.



WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

DECORATING WITH WALLPAPER Solution: 7 letters

S S T U C T R W E F F E C T H
U Y S P O T O L I L E N G T H
R A S E R G L O R P Y R O D D
F R L P N E O E L U E L P P E
A T A I O I C L H P C L P L T
C A Y N G N L I A C A N I P S
E R E S A N G P S C T V U B A
D C R H T H D E E I I A A H P
H A N D C N B E E N O T P O E
S E T A A T R R G L H N R M R
T F E S R U A M O R Y L A E P
R R R H S T O M O S L T U E V
I S O A K O N O S A H L S E L
P E E L M R M E W I G W O R K
S M O L D E M E V O M E R R N

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Align, Apply, Bathroom, Brush, Cloth, Color, Cuts, Drying, Edge, Effect, Enhance, Entrance, Frame, Glue, Hall, Hand, Home, Layer, Lean, Length, Lines, Living Room, Measure, Messy, Mismatch, Mold, Patch, Peel, Place, Precision, Prepared, Reach, Remove, Roll, Sandpaper, Snip, Soak, Sponge, Strips, Style, Surface, Tool, Tops, Tray, Uncurl, Vertical, Wall, Wipe, Work

Yesterday's Answer: Tying

Purchase Treasury 15 & Treasury 16 for the holidays! Call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480, or order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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Warehouse #3 - Size: 4,000sq/ft
\$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
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Warehouse #2 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
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Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$600/month**
Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$550/month**
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Is looking for the following positions:
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Must have related job experience & preferably someone who speaks Chinese
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Hungshun dba Sunshine Garden located behind 360 Revolving Restaurant or call (670) 235-6667/8

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1-ACCOUNTANT
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Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) General Manager
Preferably can speak Japanese. 2-5 years experience
(1) Dive Instructor
Preferably can speak Chinese.
(1) Dive Instructor
Preferably can speak Japanese.
Must possess current Scuba Diving instructor license from a Professional Scuba Diving Association (PADI, NAUI, CMAS). Must have atleast 2 to 5 years experience.
No phone call please. Interested US applicants can send their resume to acctg.cmlc@gmail.com

WHATZIT Solution: No two ways about it

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Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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49ers rally from 14 down to top Rams



ST. LOUIS (AP)— The San Francisco 49ers defense got beat early by unfamiliar plays and Austin Davis calling the signals.

"No disrespect, but I didn't know who their quarterback was," linebacker Ahmad Brooks said. "We got some good pressure on him. That helped us."

Davis was sacked five times, twice each by Brooks and Dan Skuta. They carried the day, keeping the St. Louis Rams offense stalled, and giving Colin Kaepernick a chance to warm up in a 31-17 victory on Monday night.

Kaepernick threw for 343 yards and three touchdowns for the 49ers, who erased an early 14-point deficit. The defense stepped up again when Dontae Johnson returned an interception return for a TD in the final minute to seal it.

"Talk about an opportunity, I had the chance to make a play," Johnson said.

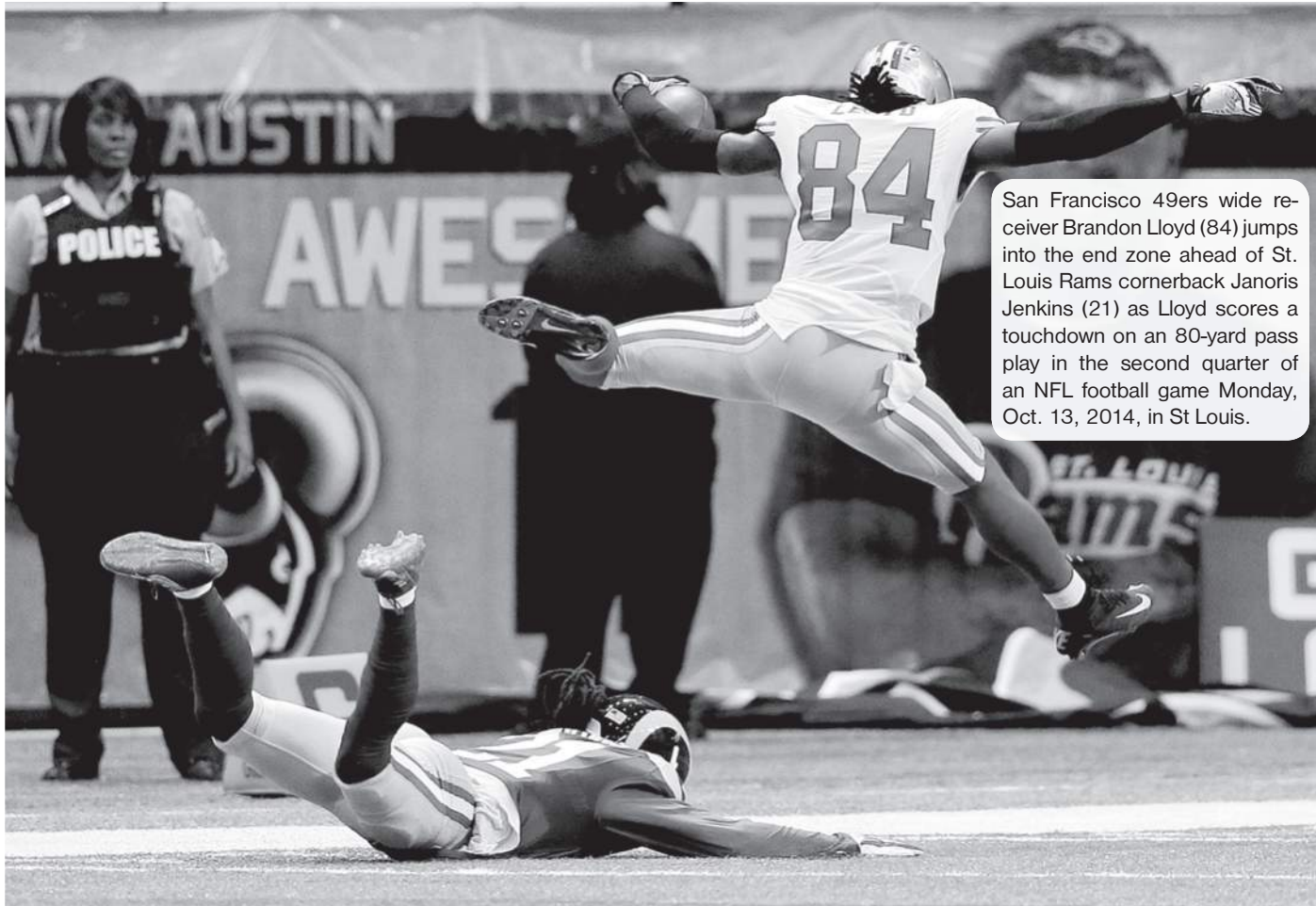
Brandon Lloyd, Anquan Boldin and Michael Crabtree each caught a scoring pass for the 49ers (4-2), who have won three in a row. The 49ers permitted one first down on St. Louis' first six possessions of the second half.

"We've had the ball in every game with a chance to either win or tie," Davis said. "That's where hopefully my experience will help, the more opportunities I get."

"You've got to be able to go to win games at the end."

Kaepernick had plenty of time to throw and wasn't sacked.

"We just want to win," Kaepernick said. "Whatever it takes, if we're up with the lead or if we have to come from behind."



San Francisco 49ers wide receiver Brandon Lloyd (84) jumps into the end zone ahead of St. Louis Rams cornerback Janoris Jenkins (21) as Lloyd scores a touchdown on an 80-yard pass play in the second quarter of an NFL football game Monday, Oct. 13, 2014, in St. Louis.

Kaepernick found Boldin zip-ping across the end zone for an 11-yard touchdown pass, capping a go-ahead 80-yard drive to start the second half. As the Niners were taking the 17-14 lead, several fans in the upper deck unfurled a large banner above the videoboard on the opposite end of the stadium as part of ongoing protests about the Michael Brown shooting in suburban Ferguson in August.

San Francisco then added to its advantage when Kaepernick connected with Crabtree for a 32-yard score with 13 seconds left in the third.

The Rams had one last chance to tie the game, but Johnson returned an interception 20 yards for the clinching score with 53 seconds to go.

It was a disappointing conclusion for St. Louis, which had 151 yards and a 14-0 lead after the first quarter on Benny Cunningham's 1-yard run and a 22-yard touchdown reception for Lance Kendricks.

"We always see different looks in a game," Skuta said. "They hadn't done some of the things they did early. We adjusted and we kept playing, that's something we do really well."

St. Louis wore throwback uniforms—royal blue and bright yellow—to honor its 1999 Super Bowl title team and represented that winning squad very well for a short time. Guard Adam Timmerman joined wide receivers Isaac Bruce and Torry Holt for an impromptu bob n' weave TD dance in the end zone at halftime.

The Rams haven't had a winning season since the Greatest Show on Turf petered out in 2003. They doubled their first-quarter scoring for the year with a start that mimicked their last home game when they led Dallas 21-0.

They lost that one 34-31, and this one was all San Francisco

the rest of the way.

The 49ers shuffled to a 1-2 start coming off a third straight appearance in the NFC championship game, but have won 13 of their last 14 in October.

Davis was 21 of 42 for 236 yards. He threw for 300 yards each of the last two games with six touchdown passes.

Three of Davis' four interceptions have been returned for touchdowns, all in the fourth quarter at home.

The 49ers had four penalties before the end of their first possession, three accepted, and one the rest of the way. One of the early miscues, illegal contact on Eric Reid, handed the Rams a second first-and-goal on their opening drive capped by Cunningham's TD behind extra lineman Tim Barnes.

Rookie Tre Mason's first career carry was a 24-yarder that might have gone the distance had he not run into teammate Brian Quick. Three plays later, Kendricks got well behind the defense on a 22-yard catch that made it 14-0 late in the first.

The 49ers inched back on Phil Dawson's 54-yard field goal, his 10th in a row with four beyond midfield. They were backed up at their own 5 inside the two-minute warning but declined to play it safe and Lloyd whipped Janoris Jenkins in single coverage on an 80-yard touchdown catch with 14 seconds left in the half.

"We had Brandon Lloyd on a double move," Kaepernick said. "We liked the matchup. He did an amazing job."

Thunder prepare to play without Durant



OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)— For the first time, the Oklahoma City Thunder will be forced to play without Kevin Durant for more than a handful of games.

The team announced Sunday that the league's reigning MVP would be out for an undetermined length of time with a fracture in his right foot, at the base of the small toe. Typically, the injury requires surgery and six to eight weeks of healing.

The Thunder haven't officially determined what's next, although general manager Sam Presti said surgery would be likely.

The Thunder will play without Durant on Tuesday night in a pre-season game against Memphis.

"No one's feeling sorry for us," Oklahoma City coach Scott Brooks said. "I can honestly say I did not receive any text messages from coaches around the league looking to postpone the season."

Opponents have seen more than enough of Durant. Since he entered the league in 2007,

he leads the league in points and minutes played. He has missed just 16 regular season games in his seven-year career and has never missed more than eight games in a season.

His longest absence was a seven-game stretch during the 2008-09 season because of a sprained right ankle. He missed one game last season, one game the season before, played in all 82 games during the 2009-10 season and all 66 games during the lockout-shortened 2011-12 season.

"When you look at Kevin, you see all the great offense of abilities and leadership qualities, but you never really think about the toughness, for him to be able to play all those years and play just about every game at a high level, and he continues to get back up," Brooks said.

Point guard Russell Westbrook, who has missed significant time the past two years with a knee injury, admires how durable Durant has been over the years.

"Very, very impressive," Westbrook said. "He's probably one of the hardest working guys

I've seen. He comes in every day and does what he's supposed to do. He doesn't take days off in practice. He tries to compete every day. It's definitely unfortunate, but he's a strong guy mentally and physically, and he'll get back to his better form."

Brooks said Durant is struggling with the idea of missing games, even though it's the preseason.

"He's about as good as anybody can possibly be," Brooks said. "One of the things I love about Kevin is he loves to play. He loves the game of basketball. He's very passionate about it. It's not a hobby for him."

Durant felt discomfort in the foot on Saturday and told the Thunder staff, leading to the diagnosis. Brooks said the injury could have been much worse if Durant had waited to get help.

"This is a minor, minor setback in the big scope of things," Brooks said. "He's going to come back in no time, and like I said, our goal is to be a better team when he gets back from where we are today without him."

Furyk looking ahead to Ryder Cup changes

SOUTHAMPTON, Bermuda

(AP)—Jim Furyk thinks it's time for the Americans to think long term about the Ryder Cup.

Furyk and Rory McIlroy both said Monday at the PGA Grand Slam of Golf that the public fall-out from another American loss in the Ryder Cup last month at Gleneagles could be helpful. Europe now has won eight of the last 10 times.

The next Ryder Cup is at Hazeltine in 2016, though Furyk said the Americans need to look beyond that.

"In the Ryder Cup, we have always talked about, 'We have got to win the next one.' I think we've got to be a little more farsighted than that," Furyk said. "I think we need to look at the next 10 to 20 years of Ryder Cup golf. ... For the next 20 years we got 10 events. Let's think about maybe 5-5 is good, let's think about 6-4, let's think about 7-3. Let's go on the winning side of it."

"When we look back the last 20 years, it's probably a 2-8 type of deal," he said. "Let's reverse that tide and get it moving forward."

In the weeks since the most recent loss, various reports have painted an ugly picture of U.S. captain Tom Watson's heavy-handed style and old-school motivation. In an awkward and

at times uncomfortable press conference at Gleneagles, Phil Mickelson raved about what worked in their last win in 2008 and that Watson ignored that winning formula.

"In a way, it's not a bad thing that the PGA of America might start looking at the Ryder Cup a little differently or trying to sort of come at it from a different angle," McIlroy said. "So in the end, it might not have been a bad thing to shake things up a little."

Furyk said the back-and-forth about the captain has been unfortunate.

"I think Rory is spot on," Furyk said. "The silver lining may be that it gives us a chance to have an open discussion. I want to look at the past, I want to see where we made our mistakes, and how we can get better."

The PGA of America is responsible for selecting the captain. It now wants to create a task force of past players and captains to find ways to improve.

Paul Azinger, the captain of the last U.S. team that won in 2008 at Valhalla, is not interested in being part of a committee just yet. He said Monday by telephone that it was too soon after the most recent matches, and he has a meeting already scheduled next month with the PGA of America.

Azinger did not want to talk

about the details of what he would share with the PGA.

Furyk said he is curious to hear different ideas, especially because it would be the first time everyone was heard as a group.

"Amongst ourselves, we talked a lot about where we have gone wrong in the past, what can we do better in the future," he said. "I'm anxious to kind of see the views from all different angles from the officers, from the captains, from the players."

Furyk and McIlroy will be paired together when the Grand Slam gets under way on Tuesday. The 36-hole exhibition is for the major champions this year, and Furyk is playing as an alternate because McIlroy won the British Open and the PGA Championship.

U.S. Open champion Martin Kaymer and Masters champion Bubba Watson round out the field.

Bermuda was hit by Tropical Storm Fay on Sunday, though Port Royal made it through in good shape.

"It doesn't look like there's been anything," McIlroy said. "Obviously, there's a few limbs off trees and stuff on the side of the fairways, or in the rough, but the golf course is in great shape."

Strong wind is in the forecast for the next two days, with locals also keeping an eye on Tropical Storm Gonzalo, which could become a hurricane by Friday.

ALCS Game 3 postponed due to rain



KANSAS CITY, Mo.
(AP)—The last

two times the Kansas City Royals played a postseason game at home, rain fell after the final out. This time, it started well before the first pitch.

Game 3 of the AL Championship Series between the Royals and Baltimore Orioles was postponed Monday because of steady rain that saturated Kauffman Stadium. The game was rescheduled for Tuesday at 8:07 p.m. EDT.

Along with steady rain, wind gusts of 25 mph were buffeting the ballpark. The forecast for Tuesday is cold and windy but dry, with weather improving the rest of the week.

"We want a game we know we can get through nine innings, hopefully play dry baseball, not risk player safety or uncomfortable fans," Major League Baseball Senior Vice President Peter Woodfork said about 4 hours before the scheduled first pitch.

The Royals, who lead the best-of-seven series 2-0, will keep former Orioles pitcher Jeremy Guthrie on the mound for Game 3. The Orioles will start Wei-Yin Chen, as planned.

After that, rotations become a little murky.

Royals manager Ned Yost said he'll decide before Tuesday night's game whether to stick with left-hander Jason Vargas for Game 4 on Wednesday or call for an audible and pitch Game 1 starter James Shields on regular rest. That game is scheduled to start at 4:07 p.m. EDT.

"Guthrie will throw tomorrow, and then we'll go from there," Yost said. "Shields can come back or if we feel like we want to give him another day, we can do that, too."

Orioles manager Buck Showalter was facing a similar conundrum. Miguel Gonzalez was slated to start Game 4, but Chris



Tillman could return on regular rest. He opposed Shields when the Royals beat the Orioles in extra innings in the series opener.

"He's on normal rest, so yeah, he's an option," Showalter said. "That'd be five (days), right? But I wouldn't commit to anything right now other than Chen and see where we are."

It's not a slam-dunk decision for Yost and Showalter to go with their aces. Shields and Tillman struggled Friday night, neither lasting past the fifth inning.

"We're still getting our arms wrapped around it," Showalter said.

If needed, Game 5 would start at 4:07 p.m. EDT on Thursday. Games 6 and 7 would return to Baltimore and be played Friday and Saturday, as scheduled.

"Our teams are used to play consecutive games in a row," Woodfork said. "Hopefully it

will not have a negative impact on the clubs."

Rain had been in the forecast for the first two games of the ALCS at Camden Yards, but both games were played without delay. The Royals won the first 8-6 in 10 innings, and Alcides Escobar's go-ahead double in the ninth inning boosted them to a 6-4 victory Saturday.

Since the best-of-seven format was adopted in 1985, all 11 teams that have won the first two games of a league championship series on the road reached the World Series.

That doesn't seem to have put a damper on the Orioles' confidence.

"We've played two close games that have gone their way. We've had our chances," Orioles reliever Andrew Miller said. "We can stop their

momentum with a win. They stopped ours. They came in and we hadn't lost in a while. We've got to experience that. Now it's our turn."

It won't be easy. With a stingy

bullpen and a scrappy offense that has suddenly started to hit home runs, the Royals have won nine straight postseason games dating to Game 5 of the 1985 World Series - three shy of

SIDEBAR

Cardinals plan to keep Molina active

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The St. Louis Cardinals arrived in the Bay Area ballpark they know so well in October and began preparing for the possibility of facing the Giants without star catcher Yadier Molina.

"Another beautiful day in NorCal!" reliever Randy Choate shouted as he hopped up the dugout steps and onto the field for Monday's workout.

"Shocker!" bench coach Mike Aldrete hollered in response.

Manager Mike Matheny is encouraged Molina might be able to help St. Louis as soon as Tuesday in Game 3, perhaps initially just off the bench as he recovers from a strained left oblique muscle sustained in Sunday's 5-4 victory at Busch Stadium. Playing at all appeared doubtful only a night earlier, then Molina played catch under cloudless skies at AT&T Park and gave Matheny hope.

"A little better than what I expected," Molina said afterward. "When I woke up, I was moving all right. We'll see. I'm going to try."

A.J. Pierzynski is the likely choice to catch former Boston teammate John Lackey in Game 3, and deemed himself ready. The best-of-seven series is tied 1-1.

Molina flew on the team charter on Sunday night after having an MRI. Once the Cardinals arrived at the ballpark

on Monday, Molina met with team doctors and medical staff in the training room of the visitors' clubhouse.

Matheny carried three catchers and has Tony Cruz and Pierzynski to fill the big void.

"Obviously it's a big loss, but we spent some time without him this year and we're fortunate to have A.J. and Tony, who are two really good players," infielder Mark Ellis said. "We're lucky to have them but I feel bad for Yadi because this is what he worked for the whole year and he's not able to be with us."

Tim Hudson takes the ball for the Giants, the 39-year-old right-hander's first start beyond the division series in 16 major league seasons.

He is already thriving in the raucous playoff environment of pumped-up crowds.

"At this point in my career, it's almost like a shot of coffee," he said.

While noting he wishes no ill will for the injured Molina, Hudson would be fine not having to face the slugging catcher. There are plenty of other big bats to contend with, anyway.

"That would be a pretty big blow for them, not only from an offensive standpoint but from a defensive standpoint how he handles those pitchers," Hudson said. "But it wouldn't hurt my feelings if he's not in the lineup for a few days, there's no ques-

^{AP}
A Baltimore Orioles fan sits in the stands after the Kansas City Royals defeated the Baltimore Orioles, 6-4, in Game 2 of the American League baseball championship series Saturday, Oct. 11, 2014, in Baltimore.

the record shared by two bunches of New York Yankees.

Of the six this year, all but one have been in dramatic fashion.

The Royals beat the A's in a 12-inning wild-card thriller, after which rain started to pour at Kauffman Stadium. Then they won a pair of 11-inning contests on the road against the Angels in the ALDS before returning home and cruising to an 8-3 series clincher.

Rain started to fall after that game, too.

It's hard to fault Mother Nature for all her dreary weather, though. She's not used to the perennially downtrodden Royals still playing games this time of year.

"Whenever a team is hot, you definitely don't want rainouts or off-days," Royals first baseman Eric Hosmer said. "It's just Mother Nature. It's all part of life. We couldn't play today, so just come back tomorrow and try to take care of business."

Arizona hires A's bench coach Hale as manager

PHOENIX (AP)—Chip Hale spent 10 seasons in the Arizona Diamondbacks' organization, the final three as the major league third base coach. He also played at the University of Arizona and still lives in Tucson.

If ever there was a perfect fit for Hale's first job as a big league manager, it was with the Diamondbacks, who gave him a two-year contract Monday to replace Kirk Gibson.

"This is the perfect job for me and my family, and that is important for me to be here," Hale said.

Backsliding since winning the 2011 NL West title, the Diamondbacks underwent a major front-office overhaul this season.

Arizona hired retired Hall of Fame manager Tony La Russa as chief baseball officer in May, asking him to assess the entire organization.

He fired general manager Kevin Towers in early September and replaced him with Dave Stewart, a four-time 20-game winner who pitched for La Russa while with Oakland. The Diamondbacks also hired De Jon Watson from the Los Angeles Dodgers to serve as senior vice president/baseball operations.

Their top priority for the new front-office group was to find a manager who could change the culture within the clubhouse.

Gibson led Arizona to a division title his first full season, but the Diamondbacks following with consecutive 81-81 seasons and went a big league-worst 64-98 this year.

Arizona hopes Hale is the perfect fit to turn around the franchise. He played multiple positions during a 12-year career that included

stops with Minnesota and the Dodgers, hitting .277 in 333 big league games.

Hale spent six seasons in Arizona's minor league system as a coach, earning numerous manager of the year awards along the way, and served as third base coach under Bob Melvin with the Diamondbacks from 2007-09.

Hale spent 2010-11 with the New Mets as third base coach and reunited with Melvin in Oakland, where he spent the past three seasons as bench coach.

"It was just the completeness of his background and the way he presented himself," La Russa said. "We were looking for a leader and a guy who knew baseball, and there wasn't a box that wasn't checked."

Hale emerged from a strong list of candidates.

tion about that."

As the series shifts to San Francisco's pitcher-friendly ballpark, the Cardinals know plenty about how the Giants protect their home field. Two years ago, St. Louis arrived in town leading the NLCS 3-2 before the Giants rallied to take the series on the way to their second championship in three years.

Lackey, too, has pitched on the big October stage in San Francisco - albeit back in 2002 with the eventual champion wild-card Angels.

Reminded he intentionally walked home run king Barry Bonds four times, Lackey smiled and said: "Wouldn't you? Geez."

"No offense to anybody in their lineup but they don't got Barry Bonds," he said. "They have got a really good lineup."

While Molina is improving, Matheny also is pleased with Adam Wainwright's health. His workload has come into question after the ace right-hander hasn't made it out of the fifth in his two postseason starts. He threw a bullpen session Monday with a hitter standing in the box but not swinging.

"His game comes down to feel and when he has a good feel for his fastball, next thing you know that breaking ball has a nice, sharp break to it," Matheny said. "So to hear from him that he feels great right now is great news for us."

Duenas leads awardees in Tan Holdings caging

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER



Kanoa Resort's Matt Duenas was named most valuable player in the 2014 Tan Holdings Inter-Company Basketball League during the awards ceremony held at the Nami Bar of Kanoa Resort early this month.

Duenas, Kanoa's hard working forward, tallied 336 points to post a 28.0 average the entire season. He defeated CTSI/D&Q's Ariel Jinang, who posted 21.2 points per game average, in the scoring race.

The former Saipan Southern High School standout registered 30-plus points in his first three games, exploding for a season-high 39 markers in Kanoa's 82-66 thrashing of Saipan Tribune/Realty Management Services. Duenas, however, failed to lead Kanoa to the finals, as they only settled for a third place finish behind runner-up Shirley's and champion Fiesta Resort & Spa.

Jinang had some sort of consolation as he was the top scorer for CTSI and was chosen as one of the six outstanding players in the league. He



was joined by Fiesta Resort & Spa's Elmer Esdreton (averaged 19.8 points per game), Shirley's Coffee Shop big man Eric Dela Rosa (18.0), Ferdie Arago of POI (17.0 ppg), Ferdie Dela Torre of Saipan Tribune/RMS (14.3) and Dindo Pablo of Kanoa Resort (13.9 ppg).

Meanwhile, Fiesta Resort & Spa players were presented with medals after their title conquest in the six-team league. Fiesta Resort & Spa eked out a heart-stopping 70-69 win over Shirley's Coffee Shop in their you-or-me showdown last Sept. 29.

Shirley's was almost on its way to victory when it held a 69-66 lead with 6.8 seconds left in the game. However, the pennant champion crumbled under pressure in the final ticks, allowing Fiesta to steal the win. Rommel Usi committed a foul that resulted to two free throws by Esdreton, while a costly turnover off an inbound play allowed Lerio Pagarao to score the game-winning layup.

JON PEREZ

Matt Duenas of Kanoa Resort Saipan, left, poses with Tan Holdings senior vice president Eli Arago after receiving his MVP medal.

7 named to Saipan Little League board

Seven longtime volunteers where voted as new board members of the Saipan Little League Baseball Inc. (SLLBI).

SLLBI members voted Annie Flores, Ben Jones, Climaco Laniyo, AJ Murig, Malcolm Omar, Manny Tenorio, and Piding Tenorio to the board during their meeting last week. The seven-member board will then choose among themselves who will be the next president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, player agent, safety officer and chief statistician. Flores said they will meet tonight at 6pm at the pavilion inside the Oleai Sports Complex to se-

lect the officers of the board. Once the new set of officers is elected, the board will prepare for the 2015-2016 Little League season that is set to start in January.

Tony Rogolifoi is the outgoing SLLBI president and decided not to seek re-election as he is busy with his new role as executive director of the Northern Marianas Sports Association. NMSA is now tasked to maintain the facilities inside the Oleai Sports Complex. He said the new board would continue to develop and improve the local youth baseball program. *(Jon Perez)*

Mayweather way off mark with De La Hoya criticism



NEW YORK

(AP)—Floyd Mayweather is an immense talent, but boxing not only survived, it thrived, long before he ever pulled on a pair of gloves. And, as much as it might jolt his ego, it will survive just fine once he decides to retire from the ring for good.

Boxing survived the retirements of Jack Dempsey, Joe Louis, Sugar Ray Robinson, Rocky Marciano, Muhammad Ali, Mike Tyson and Sugar Ray Leonard and it will survive without Mayweather, as well.

For all the good Mayweather thinks he's doing for the sport,

the reality is he's doing it far, far, far more harm. Forget the lunacy of not making the fight with Manny Pacquiao, a bout the fans of the sport that he professes to want to please, have been desperate to see. The problem here is that Mayweather's success has led him to believe that it's a sport of one and that he's the only fighter who matters.

There are many fans and sycophants in the media who buy that angle and repeat it ad nauseum, but for all the good Mayweather's bi-annual megafights do for boxing, he's also bringing it great harm with many of his words and actions (or lack of actions).

GOVT

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Islands] Delegation has done this before. We contributed and appropriated some funds previously and even then Gov. Benigno Fitial helped us a lot," said Tebuteb.

The NMA head joined OAA president Geoff Gardner, vice president Trevor Spittle, treasurer Titana Juventin, executive director Yvonne Mullins, NMA secretary general Robin Sapong, and NMSA executive director Tony Rogolifoi and vice president Kurt Barnes in the ocular inspection of the fa-

cility last Monday.

After inspecting the track, OAA officials said they will send another OAA representative to assess the cost of repairs. Patches can be seen and bubbles had already formed around the track due to extreme weather conditions and years of use.

Gardner said it would cost an estimate of \$1.25M to build a new track and field stadium, while around \$100,000 is needed to replace the rubber surface and do other repairs.

Tebuteb said back in 2008, the delegation appropriated \$30,000 to renovate the once

OAA-certified track and field oval before Saipan's hosting of the 2008 Oceania Regional Championships.

He said bringing back the track to OAA's standards track could mean that Saipan can host athletics events again in the future.

"It can help the local economy and the CNMI's tourism industry," the NMA head said.

Tebuteb added hosting a regional or OAA event could bring in a minimum of 200 athletes, while officials, coaches and some members of their families can be added to the list.

Tebuteb also said that if the Oleai track facility is certified internationally and passed OAA's standards, athletes who are training for various competitions that will be held in other Asian countries can go to Saipan to acclimatize.

"The opportunity for other

countries to use this facility is big since the next Olympics after [2016] Rio is in Tokyo (2020). Athletes who want to acclimatize can use the track since it is certified. They can come and train here," Tebuteb said.

"I am confident that the gov-

ernment will help in the funding. The private sector is always there since they've supported all NMA activities in the past. The private sector is the backbone of the NMA and most of them support our annual programs. I'm confident they will also help us," ended Tebuteb.

PSS

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cause of its lack of manpower. CUC started the match with only six players before its seventh man arrived late in the second quarter, which ended with PSS enjoying a 33-point advantage, 56-23.

Twenty-plus point production in the first two quarters helped PSS build a good lead. The Bob Coldeen-coached PSS sizzled for 29 markers in the opening canto with Jerry Diaz jumpstarting the team's offense, scoring 7 of their first 9 points. Preston Basa added two triples, while six other players hit the board, too in the first frame. Basa and Diaz's points alone were enough to outgun the entire CUC crew, who combined for only 11 markers.

PSS continued to play unselfish basketball in the second period and had another 20-plus output to more than double up CUC by halftime, while the former still had a so-so offense, making only 12 points and clearly missing the services of guard James Benavente and big man Frank Mizutani. Before not show-

ing up in their game against PSS, Benavente and Mizutani combined for 19 points in their 78-77 win over Top Development, Inc. last Friday.

Despite its big halftime lead, PSS kept pouring points in the third period, finishing the quarter with four straight triples to enter the fourth with a whopping 38-point margin, 83-35. Basa hit another triple in the third, Ed Guinto also canned one, and Joe Villacrusis buried two.

With PSS delivering the killer blows late in the third, the game was over, leaving the opposing teams to trade baskets in the final canto.

In the first game, MBI/Anchor finally outgunned Docomo Pacific in the fourth quarter to notch the 7-point victory.

MBI/Anchor and Docomo Pacific breathed on each other's neck in the first three periods before Ivan Devero, White Capalad, Pete Lizama, and Justin Zapanta alternately hit baskets to foil Docomo's bid to enter the win column.

The MBI/Anchor quartet combined for 26 of the team's 28 points in the final frame with each player hitting at least three field goals apiece. Jeff Garcia

scored the other 2 points for MBI/Anchor, which trailed by one at the end of the third period, 69-70. Earlier in the first two quarters, MBI/Anchor also clung to slim leads, 22-20, 44-40.

The four MBI/Anchor players stood out against Docomo's Tony Diaz, who scored 10 points in the fourth quarter and had only two teammates helping him out to keep the team in the match.

First Game

MBI/Anchor 97 — Devero 23, Capalad 21, Zapanta 21, Garcia 17, Lizama 10.

Docomo Pacific 90 — Diaz 36, White 20, Sanciangco 18, Hayes 10, Sablan 6.

Scoring by quarters: 22-20, 44-40, 69-70, 97-90.

Second Game

PSS 91 — Basa 16, Cabrera 11, Villacrusis 9, Mendez 9, Diaz 9, Guinto 9, Villagomez 7, Coldeen 7, Santos 6, Loste 5, Manibusan 2, Itibus 2.

CUC 51 — Poquiz 13, Simda 10, Lieto 8, Nunez 8, Magsa 8, Camacho 5.

Scoring by quarters: 29-11, 56-23, 83-35, 91-51.

ROLLERS

From Page 28

behind the undefeated Tinian (3-0). The Saints fell to an event 1-1 card.

The Saints threatened Rollers A, 54-51, after Mike Espinosa hit back-to-back baskets, with still 2:34 left on the clock. However, the Saints missed two outside shots in their next two possessions, while Prince Factor scored four straight points off two free throws and an undergoal stab to give the Rollers more cushion. The Saints then turned the ball over in the ensuing play, while John Babauta came off the bench and made a point-blanked shot to make it a nine-point lead for the Rollers, 60-51, with 1:35 left on the clock.

Thinking that it had the game in the bag, the Rollers either ba-

bied a couple of shots or lost the leather in the few possession exchanges, while the Saint earned five consecutive points off Kautong Omengkar's reverse layup and Mike Espinosa's 3-point play. With their successive baskets, the Saints cut the deficit to six, 56-62, 43 seconds remaining in the game.

The Saints had a chance to move closer when the Rollers committed another error, but the former also lost the leather on the other end and were forced to give up a foul to stop the clock. Mike Arciaga made both charities and later returned to the line after another Saints muffed offensive set, drilling two more free throws to peg the final score.

Arciaga paced Rollers A with his 23 points, while Factor added 18. Renan Lansang top-scored for the Saints with his

19 markers, but was held to two field goals in the fourth canto and made both of them early in the payoff frame. Jun Fidelino and Espinosa chipped in 13 and 11, respectively.

Meanwhile, DYS and the CNMI Girls National Team played in the second U18 pairing last night and results of the match will be reported in *Saipan Tribune's* Thursday edition. DYS holds a 2-1 record going into last night's match, while the Girls Nationals dropped their first two games.

Rollers A 66 — Arciaga 23, Factor 18, Fera 8, Camacho 3, Babauta 2, Malonzo 1.

Saints 56 — Lansang 19, Fidelino 13, Espinosa 11, Pangelinan 4, B. Floresca 4, Omengkar 2, Reyes 2, Jones 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-12, 34-29, 48-43, 66-56.

Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation First Meet

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO



A young swimmer competes in the 50m backstroke event of the Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation's first tournament for the 2014-2015 season held early this month at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.



Swimmers get ready at the starting block for the 50m backstroke race.



A male swimmer heads to the second and last lap of the 100m freestyle event.



A swimmer jumps from the starting block during the 100m freestyle event.



A male swimmer does the breaststroke part of the mixed medley relay event.



Three swimmers wait for the signal from the timer before stepping at the starting block.



Swimmers wait for the whistle to start racing in the 50m backstroke event.



A male swimmer races in the butterfly part of the mixed medley relay event.



Swimmers gather away from the pool while waiting for their respective events.



49ers rally
from 14 down
to top Rams

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Saipan Tribune Sports

ALCS Game
3 postponed
due to rain

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Govt help sought; track can boost tourism



By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Athletics president Ray Tebuteb is hoping the government and private sector would once again come to their aid to raise funds for the repairs of Oleai Sports Complex's track facility.



Tebuteb said that although he could not speak on behalf of the CNMI government now, he remains optimistic that the administration will again extend its help.

"The [Saipan and Northern

See GOV'T on Page 26

Rollers A thwarts Saints in U18 league



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Rollers A bagged its second victory in the U18 division of the 2014 BANMI Youth League after outclassing the Chalan Kanos Saints, 66-56, in the curtain-raiser yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Rollers A withstood the Saints' late rally to take the 10-point win and improve to a 2-1 record for second place in the team standings in the nine-squad field

See ROLLERS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Rollers A's Prince Factor, left, draws contact on the Chalan Kanoa Saints' Mike Espinosa on his way to the basket during the fourth quarter of their U18 game in the BANMI youth caging yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

PSS hammers CUC, 91-51

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Public School System posted the most lopsided win so far in the 2014 JP World Cup Customer Appreciation Basketball League, following its 91-51 thrashing of Commonwealth Utilities, Corp. last Monday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

The 40-point winning margin allowed PSS to recover from an 88-102 loss to the league-leading Shirley's Coffee Shop last week and put the former to a three-way tie for third place with CUC and Joeten as the three teams hold similar 2-2 records. Micronesian Brokers, Inc./Anchor is in second place as it improved to a 3-1 mark following a 97-90 victory over the winless Docomo Pacific (0-4) in the first game last Monday.

PSS took the floor after the Docomo-MBI tiff and worked early to establish a sizeable lead that CUC failed to overhaul be-

See PSS on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Public School System's Maverick Itibus goes up for a layup and is challenged by Commonwealth Utilities, Corp.'s Iramk Simada during the fourth quarter of their game in the JP World caging last Monday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.